

JPRS 78252

8 June 1981

South and East Asia Report

No. 1012

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8 June 1981

SOUTH AND EAST ASIA REPORT

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BRIEFS

NEW PAKISTAN AMBASSADOR--Rangoon 4 May--The Government of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma have agreed to the appointment of Mr Afzal Mahmood as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma in succession to His Excellency Mr S Irtiza Husain. Mr Afzal Mahmood was born in 1925. A graduate in Arts and Law, he is a lawyer by training. He joined the Foreign Affairs Group in October 1973, served as Director-General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Islamabad from 1973 to 1974 and as Minister at Pakistan Permanent Mission to the United Nations in Geneva from 1974 to 1976. He was then appointed as Director-General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Islamabad from 1976 to 1979. He has been serving as Minister in the Embassy of Pakistan, New Delhi since December 1979. Mr Afzal Mahmood is married. NAB [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 4 May 81 pp 1,4]

CSO: 4220

EDITORIAL QUESTIONS U.S.-PAKISTAN RELATIONS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 2 May 81 p 8

[Text]

It is perhaps realistic on the Reagan administration's part to conclude that it has no option but to terminate prematurely the 1963 agreement with India on the supply of enriched uranium for Tarapur. For it is possible that the U.S. Congress will not modify the 1978 anti-proliferation act which makes it difficult for the executive to maintain nuclear co-operation with a country which refuses to accept, as India does, the so-called full-scope safeguards. President Reagan could, as President Carter did, use his right to waive this condition and sanction a shipment subject to congressional approval or rejection. But this is, as President Carter found, not a dependable procedure which can assure smooth relations. Even so, it is, from the American point of view, truly extraordinary that the Reagan set-up should on its own initiative wish to terminate the agreement with India just at this stage when it is planning to extend substantial economic and military assistance to Pakistan.

U.S. military aid to Islamabad may weaken rather than strengthen Pakistan's long-term security and as such hurt rather than promote America's own interests in the region. This is, however, a separate issue which we do not propose to discuss here. Washington's decision to arm Pakistan raises other issues which are more pertinent in the present context. Before deciding to resume aid to Pakistan, Washington has not asked it for an assurance that it is not engaged in developing nuclear weapons. Indeed, the administration's spokesmen have said that it has not sought such an assurance because it knew it could not have secured one. This means that the U.S. government is prepared to acquiesce in Pakistan's bid to acquire nuclear weapons. This must involve waiver by Congress of the Symington amendment which prohibits U.S. aid for countries which go in for nuclear weapons. It is possible that Congress will reject the administration's proposal to waive the amendment and thus cripple its programme to arm Pakistan. But if Congress accepts this proposal, which is surely what the administration thinks, it will be interesting to find out why it is not proposing a similar waiver in respect of the supply of enriched uranium for India.

The obvious answer, of course, would be that Washington regards Pakistan and not India as vital to its struggle against the Soviet Union. On a surface view, this is understandable. But the proposition is full of so many loopholes that the U.S. policy-makers must be very naive indeed to

accept it without qualifications. The qualifications in respect of the Zia regime in Islamabad are obvious enough and need not be rehearsed once again. There are others which it may still be worth our while to state. If Pakistan is to play any role at all in the U.S. plans for the region, both Washington and Islamabad need India's acquiescence. Pakistan cannot but be paralysed if it is not assured of its security vis-a-vis India and has to take steps to safeguard it. Thus, not only must Washington do all it can to persuade Islamabad to befriend New Delhi but it must also seek to retain some leverage in India. And what better leverage could it have than to continue to keep this country dependent on it for the supply of enriched uranium? Washington cannot lure India into joining its senseless anti-Soviet crusade. But it need not push this country closer to Moscow and thereby increase the odds against itself.

India has, of course, considerable stakes in good relation with the United States. As such, it would have liked Washington to continue to honour its agreement regarding Tarapur so that the ties between the two countries did not come under unnecessary strain. But apart from this, it has no reason to regret the termination of the 1963 deal. Pakistan's decision to go in for nuclear weapons has left it no choice but to exercise the option it has maintained in this field at considerable cost to itself all these years. The best of relations with the United States cannot guarantee this country's long-term security against a Pakistan in possession of the bomb. That apart, India needs to be free of the stipulations which it accepted under the agreement with the United States in 1963, the most irksome of these being the obligation to pile up irradiated fuel rods and keep its reprocessing facilities idle. It had no choice so long as it was not in a position to produce an alternative fuel for Tarapur. Since it has produced and tested such a fuel — Dr. Homi Sethna has said so publicly — it is ready to be on its own in respect of Tarapur.

RAJYA SABHA DISCUSSES FOREIGN POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 1 May 81 p 15

[Text] New Delhi, April 30 (PTI).

Mr. Bipin Pal Das (Cong-I) sounded a note of caution in the Rajya Sabha today over a "threat to encircle India by forces not friendly to our country" and called for the nation's armed forces to be kept in a state of readiness to face any eventuality.

Initiating a discussion on the working of the external affairs ministry, Mr. Das warned against designs of a Washington-Beijing-Islamabad axis to create instability in the region.

Pakistan's plans to manufacture nuclear bomb would have serious consequences because in that case India too will have to keep its options open, the former deputy external affairs minister said.

Welcoming the forthcoming visit of the Chinese foreign minister to India, Mr. Das told Mr. Narasimha Rao not to expect too much of it.

He was all for complete normalisation of relations with China but this could not be achieved without resolving the border dispute between the two countries, Mr. Das said.

According to him, the British Prime Minister, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, during her visit to India, failed to give any concrete assurance to the Indian people on the issue of racial discrimination and West's arms supply to Pakistan. "It appears that Mrs. Thatcher did not care about our interests on the issues," he said.

Mr. Das wanted the non-aligned group to launch a vigorous peace offensive and a campaign against war, arms race and nuclear armament.

The non-aligned countries should be told to deny military base facilities to super powers. If any country fails to comply with this directive it should be expelled from its membership, Mr. Das said.

Mr. N. P. Nanda (Cong-U) said the government should expand and intensify its diplomatic activities in Latin America. He was highly critical of the United States for adopting an anti-India posture. "Whenever we try to be friendly with

the US, they kick us. The US always adopts different standards with regard to its approach towards India."

Mr. Nanda asked the external affairs minister to deal with utmost caution the proposed visit of the Chinese foreign minister.

Mr. Syed Shahabuddin (Janata) said some cracks were clearly visible in the foreign policy of consensus evolved during the Nehru era. There was a definite tilt in our foreign policy towards a super power. A deliberate campaign was being launched to create a war psychosis, he said adding that this might be to cover up the incompetence of the present government.

During the past one year, the Janata leader said, there has been no progress in the working of the foreign ministry either in matters of bilateral in regional or global relations.

Mr. Shahabuddin was of the opinion that India was following double standards in its foreign policy, leading to its isolation in the United Nations and other forums. India's dialogue with the ASEAN had come to a halt he said.

Mr. Dinesh Singh (Cong-I) said the new cold war between the two super powers had its centre in South Asia.

Mr. Dinesh Singh wanted India to have a frank and detailed discussion with China and thrash out problems between the two countries.

Referring to Pakistan's efforts to acquire arms on a large-scale, he wondered whether Pakistan wanted to become a "client state of the U.S."

Mr. Prakash Mehrotra (Cong-I) felt that the super powers were involved in the arms race and had once again revived the slogan "peace through strength."

CSO: 4220/7684

MANIPUR INSURGENTS SAID TO USE 'SOPHISTICATED ARMS'

Madras THE HINDU in English 29 Apr 81 p 9

[Text]

IMPHAL, April 28

An indefinite dusk-to-dawn curfew has been imposed in Greater Imphal from Monday in view of the reoccurrence of violence. Unlike in the past the army will be patrolling during the curfew hours.

A spate of violence in various parts of Manipur has rocked the insurgency-hit border State. For the first time, the insurgents belonging to the People's Liberation Army (PLA) have started using sophisticated arms and explosive devices like land mines.

Further they are using balloons for dropping propaganda material in inaccessible hill and jungle areas. It is feared that these balloons are also used as signals among underground camps. The timing and number of balloons seem to coincide with the ambushes and encounters.

The PLA has started operating in large numbers. It has been lying low except for killing those whom they consider as counter-revolutionaries.

Mr. Roman Kumar Singh, Additional Superintendent of Police, had a chance encounter with ten PLA members at Kachanahong bridge near here recently. Police sources said the insurgents could not fire more than two rounds as the ammunition was defective.

Two escaped and out of eight arrested, two were killed. One of the dead was Joyta Singh, who was an expert bomb-maker.

Underground sources said both of them were deliberately laydowned to death.

On the following night, a group of insurgents planted a land mine at Kongla. An army jeep patrolling the area was blown up. The insurgents continued to fire from both sides at the surviving jeeps for about 15 minutes.

The cointing operations, conducted ostensibly to round up these insurgents, have drawn blank.

Meanwhile, the killing of police in-farmers and counter-revolutionaries has been on the increase. Reports in the local press say that some PLA members were also killed by members of other ground organizations.

It has become increasingly clear that some anti-social elements have taken advantage of the fluid law and order situation to earn quick money.

Every second young man seems to have illegal firearms. Recently, four armed youths entered a hotel and demanded money. Three of them escaped after firing a shot at the manager. The fourth was caught and handed over to the police.

CSO: 4220/7680

INDIA MAY BORROW FROM ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Madras THE HINDU in English 3 May 81 p 12

[Text] Honolulu, May 2.

India will consider drawing funds from the Asian Development Bank's Development Fund after 1986, marking the first time the country has come to the Bank for assistance, Mr. R. Venkataraman, Finance Minister, said here on Friday.

He told the Bank's annual meeting that India had unilaterally refrained from borrowing from ADB, even though, on any objective criteria, it would have been entitled to a substantial proportion of its lending resources.

"However, circumstances have undergone a dramatic change in recent years, compelling a review of our earlier position. The past few years have seen sharp increases in the prices of oil and related commodities, imposing a heavy burden of adjustment on the economy.

"If this adjustment is to be achieved without undue disruption of our development effort, India has to raise adequate resources through still greater effort at home and a larger inflow of external resources," he added.

Eligible to Receive Largest Share

Mr. Venkataraman said that on the basis of the Bank's criterion of income per head and population, India would be eligible to receive the largest share both from the Asian Development Fund and from the ordinary capital resources.

"The Government of India has come to the conclusion that in spite of its large requirements of concessional funds on account of its low per capita income, population and balance of payments difficulties, it should refrain from borrowing from ADF till 1986.

"However, India would be interested in drawing on the resources of later ADF replenishments," he said.

The Bank is currently discussing the receipt of more funds from developed countries from 1983, although the outcome of these discussions is far from clear yet.

Mr. Venkataraman said "India's approach assumes the country's requirements will be adequately met by ordinary capital resources of the Bank--lent at 9.25 per cent--from 1983.

He also announced India would add a further \$300,000 to the ADB Technical Assistance Fund to bring its contribution to over \$ one million.

The Deputy U.S. Treasury Secretary, Mr. Timothy McNamar, said "this will not be an easy year for foreign assistance. Eighty-six domestic and foreign assistance programmes have been targeted for spending cuts of roughly \$56 billions in the 1982 fiscal year".

The U.S. administration intended to complete a review of its assistance to international development banks by September and hoped to set out shortly afterwards a timetable for negotiations on the subject.

CSO: 4220/7698

RESERVE BANK REVIEWS COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT PROGRESS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 2 May 81 p 7

[Text] Bombay, April 30.

The Reserve Bank's biennial review of the cooperative movement in the country for 1976-77 and 1977-78 reveals the failure of cooperative credit policy in reducing regional imbalances.

The review observes that the thrust of cooperative policy during the two years was mainly to gear up the cooperative credit institutions in meeting the credit needs of the hitherto neglected weaker sections of the rural poor and to reorganise and strengthen the credit structure with a view to improving its performance and reducing regional imbalances.

The review records that the performance of the cooperative credit structure continued to remain uneven among the States. Of the total loans of Rs 1,273 crore issued in 1977-78 by the primary agricultural credit societies for the country as a whole, the combined share of just five States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamilnadu, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab was nearly 55 per cent.

Mounting overdues at various levels continued to smother the progress of the cooperative movement. The large-scale overdues constituted a major obstacle in meeting the short-term and medium-term credit needs of agriculture on an increasing scale year after year. The review brings out that the total overdues including unsecured cash credits and overdrafts of the Central cooperative banks further increased from Rs 460 crore in 1975-76 to Rs 754 crore in 1977-78 while the overdues of primary agricultural credit societies rose from Rs 561 crore in 1975-76 to Rs 809 crore in 1977-78.

The high-levels of overdues thus "calls for concerted and sustained efforts on the part of the cooperative banks, primary credit societies and State Governments to further intensify recovery efforts.

As regards the reorganisation of primary agricultural credit societies, the review notes, considerable progress was achieved in several States. During the period the re-organisation was more or less complete in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu and Uttar Pradesh while in the remaining States much work remained to be done. A few States such as Maharashtra were still having reservations in completing the programme on the lines agreed.

Giving its overall view, the review report increase in the total loans, outstanding at the level of the State cooperative banks by nearly 50 per cent from Rs 894 crore in 1975-76 to Rs 1,339 crore in 1977. [as published]

NEW FICCI HEAD HOLDS DELHI PRESS CONFERENCE

Madras THE HINDU in English 2 May 81 p 7

[Text] New Delhi, May 1.

The business community feels optimistic of achieving a growth rate of ten per cent in industrial production and 12 to 15 per cent increase in exports during 1981-82 if adequate infrastructure facilities are made available.

This optimism was expressed by Mr. Arvind Lalbhai, at his first press conference after assuming the presidentship of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry here.

Mr. Lalbhai, however, said that the growth of industry and of trade would depend on the availability of adequate infrastructure facilities including power, coal and transport. Recently, there had been significant improvement in power generation, coal production as also rail movement, and he hoped that these trends would be carried forward in the coming months.

"If for any reason the growth of infrastructure does not match the requirements, the production programmes of industry will not be realised," he added.

Referring to generation of resources, Mr. Lalbhai said that even with a ten per cent return, public enterprises could generate resources to the extent of Rs. 2,000 crores per year.

This could be mobilised without any rise in prices or creating any adverse results like those stemming from taxation. It was therefore of utmost importance that the working of public enterprises was put on a sound footing.

Mr. Lalbhai said it was necessary to combine public accountability with commercial independence.

'Dismantle Controls'

Referring to the Government charge that the industry had not responded fully to the various incentives given to it to boost production and exports, the FICCI president said for any scheme to bear fruit some gestation period was required. He said he was confident that the desired objectives of growth and exports would be gradually achieved.

He said the industry should work in comparative freedom and the 30 years of controlled economy had generated a psychosis that if these controls were removed there might be chaos.

He felt that all controls should be dismantled as far as possible to impart necessary efficiency.

He said industries in which price control existed, had tended to become unproductive. He felt that excise duty rebate allowed to the tyre and tubes industry should be extended to other industries also.

The corporate sector, Mr. Lalbhai said, was faced with a paucity of resources. The Sixth Plan envisaged a corporate investment of Rs. 5,000 crores by 1984-85--a five-fold increase over the level obtaining last year. If this stupendous target was to be met, the present high level of corporate taxation would have to be reduced, Mr. Lalbhai said.

'Cut Corporate Taxation'

If the Sixth Plan target was to be achieved, the new issue market should absorb industrial securities worth Rs. 1,000 crores which amounted to a tenfold increase over the present level, Mr. Lalbhai said. The terms offered by financial institutions were difficult. These institutions, moreover, did not have adequate resources.

The need of the hour, therefore, was the reduction of corporate taxation to 50 per cent, Mr. Lalbhai said.

To create a market for debentures and other corporate securities including deposits, the private sector should be allowed to run unit trusts on the lines of the Unit Trust of India, Mr. Lalbhai suggested.

Referring to the rising cost of plant and machinery replacement, Mr. Lalbhai said such escalation had hampered efficiency. The problem was aggravated by the inadequacy of the depreciation allowance allowed under the Income Tax Act. He called for a system of inflation accounting.

Draconian Bill

Mr. Lalbhai criticised the Essential Commodities (special provision) Bill as "draconian".

The Bill provided, among other things, for summary trial by special courts, mandatory imprisonment of not less than three months and making offences non-bailable.

CSO: 4220/7688

CHIEF OF STAFF REPORTS ON ARMY READINESS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 3 May 81 p 4

[Text] Calcutta, May 2--Chief of the Army Staff General O P Malhotra said here today that the Indian Army was at present operationally well-equipped to face any challenge.

Talking to newsmen, Gen. Malhotra said that modernisation of equipment, increase in fire power and a satisfactory state of combat readiness, including mobility, were the salient features of Indian Army today.

The Army chief said that the well-being of the man who hand the equipment was his main consideration. [as published] Happiness of the individuals contributed a great deal towards improving their personal and operational efficiency, he felt.

The General said he was proud to say that everything "has been done on our part" to keep the army operationally fit and its very high. [as published]

General Malhotra said that as Army chief has was able to ensure modern weapons to the army and welfare of its personnel. [as published]

He was given an impressive cereonial [as published] guard of honour this morning by the troops of Madras Regiment. The General and Mrs Malhotra were later given a touching send-off by Lt-General and Mrs E A Vas, and Maj General and Mrs Pathania, and other senior military officers.

CSO: 4220/7699

FRONT SEEKS TO FORM MANIPUR GOVERNMENT

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 3 May 81 p 5

[Text] The People's Democratic Front (PDF) has said it should be allowed to form a popular government in Manipur, now under President's rule, reports UNI.

Addressing a news conference on Saturday PDF leader K H Chaoba said the party had submitted a memorandum to the Governor, now in Delhi, on the demand. The Front had strength of 31 MLAs in a House of 59. It comprises the Communist Party of India, the Communist Party of India (Marxist), the Congress(U), the Manipur People's Party and the Janata.

PTI adds: Mr Chaoba, who had met Governor of North-Eastern States L P Singh on Friday said the Governor seemed helpless to give him any positive answer.

Mr Singh who was to have relinquished his post, is still holding the office and is now camping here.

Mr R K Vyas, who was to have replaced Mr Singh, died recently before assuming office.

Mr Banka Behary Das, AICC(U) general secretary, who was present at the press conference, intervened to say that it was their feeling that by delaying to call on the PDF to form a government, the Congress-I was trying to form a government on its own after securing some defections to its ranks.

The Congress-I attempt would not succeed as all the 31 members of the PDF were united, Mr Chaoba and Mr Thombi Singh asserted.

CSO: 4220/7699

ANDHI SAID TO ALLAY FEARS OF OPEC INVESTORS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 3 May 81 p 1

[Text]

INDIA is assuring OPEC investors from West Asia that they need not be afraid of their investments in this country being nationalised.

This assurance is learnt to have been given to the visiting dignitaries of the Gulf region on whom the Government has impressed the scope that India offers to investors in special fields.

These fields include petrochemicals, fertilisers and engineering, according to sources.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has herself assured OPEC investors that they should not be wary of investing in India for the fear of nationalisation.

Discounting such fears, she told the press corps in the entourage of the Amir of Bahrain—who has just concluded a four-day State visit to India—that 'we do not nationalise just for the sake of nationalisation'. Nationalisation, she said, was resorted to only if that was imperative for the country's development.

The Prime Minister said one of the main reasons that increases in oil prices affected the

developing nations far more than the western nations was that the OPEC had made massive investments in the West.

India, she told them, understood the OPEC feeling on oil prices. The resources of these nations had been exploited by the western nations, and when the Arab countries took control of their own oil, it was natural that they would take steps to their advantage.

In the rise in oil prices, however, it was not the western nations that suffered, but developing countries like India. India for instance bought oil not for luxuries but for essential transport and for fertilisers. Although some economising could be done there was not much scope to reduce the oil imports.

She said OPEC nations were also spending the oil money in buying many goods from the West, by which they could largely manage to offset the rise in oil prices and did not feel the pinch as much as the developing nation.

The Prime Minister also pointed out that India, with its economic and political stability, was a good place to make investments.

CSO: 4220/7699

INDIA, USSR SIGN SUPPLEMENTARY PACT ON OIL SUPPLY

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 2 May 81 p 14

[Text] Moscow, May 1 (PTI): The Soviet Union will receive from India this year cereals and goatskin besides a few other items in exchange for the additional 1.35 million tonnes of crude and petroleum products in the current year.

This was stipulated in a supplementary protocol signed here last night by a visiting Indian delegation led by the commerce secretary, Mr. P. K. Kaul, and the Soviet authorities.

This was a sequel to the trade agreement for 1981 signed in December.

Two other agreements, one concerning banking arrangements for the 520 million rouble credit offered by the USSR for the next five years and the other relating to commercial credits for the import of equipment and machinery into India from the USSR for the various Soviet-aided projects in the next five years, were also signed.

The Soviet Union had been providing India in the past on a long-term basis crude and petroleum products amounting to a little over three million tonnes. It had agreed to supply for the next five years an additional 1.35 million tonnes of crude and oil products annually on India's request.

From next year, this additional quantity will be absorbed in the normal annual trade plan.

The agreements were signed for India by Mr. P. K. Kaul and Mr. D. K. Chatterjee, a joint secretary in the finance ministry, and the deputy minister for foreign trade. Mr. Grishin and the chairman of the foreign trade bank of the USSR, Mr. Iranov, signed on behalf of the Soviet Union.

CSO: 4220/7690

CONCERN EXPRESSED OVER TREATMENT OF WORKERS ABROAD

Madras THE HINDU in English 29 Apr 81 p 6

[Text] New Delhi, April 28.

The Lok Sabha Estimates Committee has expressed serious concern over the exploitation of Indian girls, "enticed" into marriage by foreign nationals particularly from West Asian countries, and later deserted or ill-treated.

In its 16th report on "Indians in West Asia, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Burma, Indonesia and Singapore" presented to the House on Tuesday, the committee has also expressed its distress over the harassment and exploitation of Indian workers in the West Asian countries.

It has expressed strong criticism of the "smugness" displayed by the External Affairs Ministry towards such a large number of cases of ill-treatment and exploitation.

"Thorough enquiries made in 1976," says the committee, "confirmed that a large number of Arab nationals, aged 60 to 70, got married to young girls who were later sold to Arab households as domestic servants or to some agents and in some cases were forced to take to unpleasant and indecent practices. [as published]"

In 1977 the Regional Passport Offices were instructed by the Ministry to issue passports only after verification of facts from various sources and after satisfying themselves that Indian women were not being cheated.

The committee is unhappy over the failure of the Indian missions in Abu Dhabi and Doha to carry out the instructions to interview Arab husbands personally before attesting their sponsorship delegations and over the Ministry's attempts to whittle down its lapses.

Publicity: While agreeing with the Ministry that the precautions taken to regulate passport facilities to Indian Muslim girls married to Arab nationals are applicable only after such a marriage has been solemnised, it, however, says "The Ministry should not sit as idle spectator when it known that exploitation is taking place."

It has suggested that cases of desertion and exploitation of Indian wives by Arab husbands should be given discreet publicity to caution people about the dangers inherent in such matrimonial alliances with unknown foreigners.

The Ministry should also do its utmost to avoid fake marriages as cover for taking Indian girls out of the country for unauthorised employment, or marriages with maimed, sick or old persons. The Indian missions should be instructed to keep a close watch on such matrimonial alliances.

Since these cases relate mostly to Indian Muslim girls, the committee expresses the wish that "it should be possible for the Government to bring about, with the consensus of the minority communities concerned, a suitable system of compulsory registration of all such marriages. [as published] This will minimise exploitation of Indian women by foreign nationals and safeguard their interests in the event of desertion or divorce.

Maid-servants: The committee has also expressed its distress over the ill-treatment, beating and molestation of Indian maid-servants, who had emigrated to Qatar and who wished to return to India at any cost.

In the past the Government had put a ban on Indian women going out to take an employment of this character in a household. But subsequently and particularly after a Supreme Court judgment the Ministry felt a total ban on women going out for employment could not be enforced.

The committee says that if requests from foreigners for employment of Indian women as ayahs or maid-servants or governesses are scrutinised closely with reference to the social stature, reputation and family background of the households concerned, the chances of ill-treatment can be minimised.

It expects the Indian missions to act as true guardians of the dignity of Indian women employees abroad and spare no effort to safeguard their honour.

Workers: As for the plight of Indian workers abroad, the committee says their harassment is taking place openly in most of the West Asian countries.

During the last three years, according to the figures given by the Ministry itself, "there have been 108 cases of harassment in Qatar, 300 in Saudi Arabia (in two years), 257 in Bahrain, 39 in Jordan, 1,000 in Kuwait, an undetermined number in Iraq, Iran and the United Arab Emirates, 11 in Lebanon, 9,965 in Oman and 617 in Yemen Arab Republic.

Taking strong exception to the Ministry's statement that these cases of harassment and exploitation coming to about 11,400 in three years or about 4,000 a year "are not really of any unusual magnitude", the committee says, "It is an astounding statement". If 4,000 cases of exploitation a year are not considered unusual, how many more should take place to convince the Ministry of the seriousness of the situation? The smugness displayed by the Ministry in the face of such a large number of cases of ill-treatment and exploitation is deplorable.

In a matter concerning the honour and prestige of Indian nationals abroad, the Ministry should view every such case seriously and not try to derive unwarranted consolation from statistical comparisons.

The committee has urged the Ministry to undertake a study into why the Indian workers, known to be hard-working, sincere and dedicated and not interfering in

the affairs of the country in which they work, are not treated properly. The Indian missions should consider every case of complaint, irrespective of the status of the complainant and follow it up vigorously with the employers and the local Government till a satisfactory solution is found.

On Indians in Sri Lanka, it has found that the implementation of the 1964 and 1974 agreements has not made satisfactory progress.

It has not accepted the statement of the Ministry that the people of Indian origin in Sri Lanka are reluctant to be repatriated.

CSO: 4220/7680

ELECTION COMMISSION ANNOUNCES VOTING DATES

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 1 May 81 p 7

[Text]

NEW DELHI, April 30 (UND): The election commission has announced the programme for holding seven by-elections to the Lok Sabha from Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Simultaneously the poll will also be held in three assembly constituencies in Bihar and four in Uttar Pradesh where it was countermanded during the general election held in May-June, 1980, according to an official release.

Following is the state-wise break-up: Lok Sabha:

Orissa — Cuttack; Uttar Pradesh — Garhwal, Bareilly, Amethi, Mirzapur and Allahabad.

West Bengal — Serampore.

Assemblies:

Bihar — Dhanaha, Persa, Bakhtapur, Sandesh, Hivsa and Giridh.
Karnataka — Dharwar, Rural.

Uttar Pradesh — Bilaspur, Bisaul, Shahjanapur, Tindwari, Lakshmipur, Jahanabad, Patiali and Sikandra.

West Bengal — Darjeeling, Kumarganj, Kharba, Suzapur, Jadavpur, Dum Dum, Manickiola and Midnapore.

The tentative programme for holding the by-elections except in respect of Karnataka and Orissa is as under:—

Date of notification — May 6; Last date for filing nominations — May 13; Last date for withdrawal of candidature — May 16 and Date of poll, if necessary — June 14.

In the case of Karnataka, the tentative programme is as under: Date of notification — May 8; Last date for filing nominations — May 15; Date of scrutiny — May 16; Last date for withdrawal of candidature — May 18, and date of poll, if necessary — June 14.

CSO: 4220/7683

SHEIKH ABDULLAH SPEAKS AT SRINAGAR RALLY

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 1 May 81 pp 1, 9

[Text] Srinagar, April 30.

The chief minister, Sheikh Abdullah, said today that the federal structure of the country was in danger of cracking up if the Congress(I) did not abandon its attempts to overawe governments and create conditions of instability in states where its writ did not run.

Addressing a rally at Iqbal Park, the first after his return here following the "darbar move", the Sheikh said in the federal structure the country had adopted, both the Centre and the states had their own roles to play and this was clearly defined in the constitution, and for Jammu and Kashmir, as one of the constituent states, by the instrument of accession.

In his hour-long speech, which was heard with rapt attention, the Sheikh dwelt on Centre-state relationship, the criticism that the minorities were feeling unsafe in the state and attempts by the Congress(I) to topple governments in the non-Congress(I)-ruled states.

He said there was no need for a confrontation to develop between the Centre and any state. Both had to realise the roles they had to play. But this relationship could not remain stable if the Centre sought to make its will prevail by force over the states. It had to retain parity between all states, even those where non-Congress(I) parties were in power.

The Sheikh alleged that after the 1980 parliamentary and state elections which had returned the Congress(I) in a majority of states and at the Centre, its partymen, "drunk with the heady wine of power," had initiated a systematic campaign to dislodge non-Congress(I) governments.

Bandhs had been observed in West Bengal during which many lives were lost. A communal problem had been created in Kerala and now similar attempts were being made to create a law and order problem in Jammu and Kashmir and then impose governor's rule.

The chief minister felt that the Congress (I) thought it could capture a majority of seats in the subsequent elections to the state assembly.

He said the Congress (I) campaign in the state had started by raking up the grievances of the people of Ladakh. After this, the agitation was shifted to Jammu, as a result of which the Sikri commission had been appointed. The commission's findings revealed that it was the people of the Kashmir valley who had suffered the most from regional imbalances.

When all these tactics failed, the Congress (I) president, Mrs. Gandhi, came here early this month and remarked that the minorities were unsafe in the state, he alleged.

/The campaign against the ruling party had been intensified by the spate of thefts of idols from the shrines of the minority community and the more recent income-tax raids, he alleged./ [in boldface]

The chief minister regretted that while Mrs. Gandhi had expressed her sympathies with the plight of the minorities, she did not have a single word of cheer for the majority community in the valley.

He refuted the allegation that minorities were unsafe in the state. During the tribal invasion of 1947 when all members of the minority community had fled, it was the Muslims who had guarded the shrine of Khur Bhuwani in the valley.

The state had acceded to India voluntarily and not "through bribes or threat". The instrument of accession clearly laid that only defence, communication and foreign affairs were to be conducted by the Centre. He would strive to ensure the individuality and autonomy of the state.

Raising his voice, he said: "We will not permit anyone to play with our fate. Anyone questioning the individuality of the state or its interests could only do so over the bodies of the Kashmiris." He had made this clear to Mrs. Gandhi and Pakistan earlier.

CSO: 4220/7683

JANATA LEADERS ADDRESS BANGALORE YOUTH RALLY

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 1 May 81 p 9

[Text] Jayaprakash Narayan Nagar (Bangalore), April 30.

The Janata president, Mr. Chandra Shekhar, today accused the Prime Minister of trying to take advantage of the arms race in the Indian sub-continent.

He said that more and more tension was being injected into the residers did but because it was accentuated by the behaviour of Mrs. Gandhi. [as published] However, when the USSR intervened in Afghanistan, the government of India did not raise its "powerful voice" against it, he said.

The situation in the country was worsening every day in all spheres. Political and economic problems had mounted, law and order had deteriorated and the people were getting frustrated. It was to give a new turn to the country's development that the youth should strive through organised work among the people, Mr. Shekhar stated while inaugurating a two-day national meeting held by the Yuv Janata.

A similar call to the youth was also given by the former prime minster, Mr. Morarji Desai, in his "blessings" to the youth rally.

The youth rally, being held on the polo grounds of the Bangalore palace, once a property of the Mysore Maharaja, precedes the national executive committee meeting of the party which will be foliowed by a two-day convention of the workers of the south.

Both Mr. Shekhar and Mr. Desai spoke against the agitation initiated in Gujarat against reservations. The Janata chief said he could understand the need to remove the anomalies that had crept into the reservation scheme, but certainly not the agitation for doing away with certain facilities created for the benefit of the scheduled castes and tribes. This was a dangerous tendency, which the youth should guard against, Mr. Shekhar said.

Mr. Desai asrsted [as published] that the reservation scheme should go on as long as untouchability remained. This was the time for those who had kept the untouchables in a state of oppression for centuries to repent for their past mistakes and allow the scheduled castes and tribes to come up the socio-economic ladder.

Mr. Shekhar put the problems of the nation, with 50 per cent of the people below the poverty line, 65 per cent of the people being illiterate and 80 per cent of the people without any medical aid, before the youth. Poverty was a curse, but disparity between the poor and the handful of the rich complicated the problem and created growing tension. There were regional imbalances and the tribal belt was in a turmoil, he said.

The Janata wanted these problems solved through a democratic process, mobilising the enthusiasm of the people. It did not want to follow the Indira Gandhi regime which was a past master in making promises without fulfilling them he said.

Mr. Shekar (as published) wanted the youth to recognise the boys and girls belonging to the scheduled castes and tribes in colleges no longer believed that God was responsible for their miseries. It was the social structure that was responsible. Similarly, rural people had become restive because they felt neglected.

Mr. Shekhar recalled that a hue and cry was raised when the Janata government headed by Mr. Desai gave a subsidy of Rs. 500 crores to fertilisers to give an impetus to the agricultural sector. Nobody bothered about the subsidy being given to the corporate sector, amounting to Rs. 1,000 crores every year in terms of tax relief. The Indian corporate sector had the lowest taxation in the world.

Mr. Desai took his audience back to 1977, when the Janata was born to save the country from the "terrorism" of the then government. Democracy was in danger and emergency had been imposed because Mrs. Gandhi wanted to remain in power at any cost, he said.

The Janata had been voted to power in the subsequent election, but it fell because of elements which were obsessed with what he called "office-bearer mania" and political ambition and worked towards division rather than unity. They did not allow even organisational elections to be held. With a sigh of relief Mr. Desai said that these forces had left the Janata, which had emerged, at Sarnath, as a dynamic political organisation, free from dissensions.

Mr. Desai also outlined the Janata ideology as Gandhian. It did not believe in hero-worship. It wanted to become strong by reinforcing itself from within and not by destroying or weakening other political parties.

Mr. Desai referred to newspaper reports that there were differences between himself and the party president. "There can be differences between two intelligent people. Otherwise, they are not intelligent. Only fools have only one view. But in a democracy, one respected the other's view and did not quarrel. Democracy meant a spirit of reconciliation, he added. [as published]

He also referred to reports that he was leaving the Janata party and even politics and would take sanyas. "I do not believe in sanyas; I believe in the service of the people and this is to go on till the end of my life." Some people thought that it would be better if he went away. "I don't want to oblige them." Some others, who had left the Janata, spread the rumour that he was going to join them. "I have not lost my senses. My loyalty is to the Janata party."

Mr. Desai reiterated his belief in non-violence. While he wanted Janata workers to engage themselves in work and even agitations, if necessary, these should be

peaceful. He did not believe in "rasta roko," "rail roko" and bus-burning which had become part of today's agitations.

Mr. Desai felt that the Janata had not only become purified with divisive elements leaving it but it had become stronger as well. Some people thought that after the last Lok Sabha elections, the Janata had disappeared from the scene. This was not so. It had become a party with a better quality of people. Its popularity was increasing, as was his experience during his recent tours of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. People in unprecedented numbers came to his meetings spontaneously, unlike the people brought to Mrs. Gandhi's meetings in trucks, he said.

CSO: 4220/7683

MAY 1 RESOLUTIONS OF JANATA EXECUTIVE REPORTED

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 2 May 81 p 9

[Text] Jayaprakash Narayan Nagar (Bangalore), May 1.

The dismissal of the "discredited" Congress(I) government headed by Mrs. Anwara Taimur in Assam was demanded by the national executive committee of the Janata party here today.

This, a resolution passed by the committee said, should enable a democratic alternative to emerge.

Mr. Ramakrishna Hegde, general secretary, explained that the Assam governor should invite other political parties to form a government.

The brief resolution pointed out that the recent session of the assembly, when a cut motion on the budget demands was adopted, had demonstrated that the Taimur government had forfeited the confidence of the assembly as well as of the people. Its continuance was, therefore, repugnant to the letter and spirit of the constitution and accepted norms of parliamentary democracy.

It noted that Mrs. Taimur should have resigned, and might have done so but for the "brazen and partisan" manner in which the Central government had used its authority to prop up a "discredited" government, put together through defections. The Centre also permitted the governor to take the unprecedented step of authorising expenditure by the exchequer through an ordinance which was promulgated after the prorogation of the assembly.

The resolution was moved by Mr. Morarji Desai, who happened to be the chair in the absence of Mr. Chandra Shekhar.

Mr. Desai had earlier offered his good offices in finding a solution to the Assam problem and Mr. Shekhar had suggested a round-table conference of all concerned parties, including the opposition. But since these have been reportedly shelved by the Prime Minister, no fresh proposal emerged at the meeting.

However, the meeting welcomed the resumption of the dialogue on the foreigners' problem between the Centre and leaders of the Assam movement and hoped that a satisfactory solution would emerge.

While condemning acts of terrorism as well as separatist tendencies in the north-eastern region, the committee was of the opinion that it was the unimaginative

and inept handling of the situation by the government and its tactics of "procrastination and divide and rule" that had led to the worsening of the situation.

Electoral Reforms

Two other resolutions emerged from the national executive committee in the first half of the proceedings today--one on electoral reforms and another on tribals.

The committee said that what was urgently needed was the expeditious adoption of a suitable Central legislation on electoral reforms on the basis of various suggestions made so as to make the working on the parliamentary democracy more meaningful.

The present electoral laws, in the opinion of the Janata executive, had failed miserably to them the growing malpractices in the electoral system. "Suitable amendments" were suggested to the electoral laws and the constitution. The broad areas to be covered by such amendments were outlined as gerrymandering, faulty preparation of electoral rolls, flagrant use of force to stop legitimate voters from exercising their right to vote, capturing of polling booths, tampering with ballot boxes, partisan attitude of officers at polling station as well as in the counting of votes and declaration of results, impersonation of voters, defections and floor-crossing in legislatures leading to political instability.

Tribals' Problems

The resolution, however, appeared to stay away from suggesting any specific remedies.

One point on which the committee members were united was that the age of voting should be reduced to 18. This, as the resolution explained, was intended to involve the youth in the electoral processes--a "fitting" response to their urges and aspirations.

On the problems facing tribals, leading to growing discontent among them, the committee advocated a positive forest policy which should prohibit the felling of trees, promote forest-based cottage and small industries, harness research for commercial use of forest produce and employment of the tribal people, encourage community-based afforestation in a massive way and ensure the formation of co-operative societies, gradually eliminating contractors.

CSO: 4220/7690

WRITER ANALYZES POSITION OF BHARATIYA JANATA

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 1 May 81 p 8

[Article by A. S. Abraham]

[Text] The Bharatiya Janata Party's choice of Cochin for its national council session was doubtless designed to make a political point as much as its choice of Bombay for its first national convention some four months ago had a similar purpose. Then, because Bombay had been consistently more sympathetic to the opposition parties and more hostile to Mrs. Gandhi, the BJP was able to make a big splash.

In Cochin, it was, in fact, making two political points: one, that it was no longer a "northern party", but had a southern presence as well, and two, that in Kerala in particular, it had some say in the affairs of the state.

In Kerala, the former Jana Sangh, the BJP's parent party, did not win even one seat in the legislature. But the violent clashes between CPM and RSS cadres in the state are evidence that the BJP has made some headway, although how much it is difficult to say.

These clashes are one reason why the BJP has decided to have nothing to do with the Marxists politically. The BJP-CPM estrangement, in turn, is affecting Kerala's politics. The BJP, though not a member of the coalition ruling the state, wants the home ministry to be taken away from the CPM minister now running it and given to a non-Marxist cabinet member. And while the BJP has reaffirmed its opposition to any Congress(I) attempts to bring down non-Congress(I) state governments, there has been talk of joint BJP-Congress (I) efforts in Kerala to keep the Marxists at bay. What this adds up to is that the BJP, whatever its actual strength in Kerala, has become a factor for political parties to reckon with there. By holding its national council meeting in Cochin, it drove the point home.

Credit

What the BJP is striving after, however, is to become a force to reckon with in national politics, to be a, if not the, "national alternative" to the Congress(I). To its credit, it has emerged as one of the three major parties in the country today, the others being the Congress(I) and the CPM. Its membership is growing steadily, its overall sobriety has begun to win praise, however grudging, from

its severest critics, and its emphasis on "Gandhian socialism", however amorphous the term, may in course of time convince not a few sceptics that it is not a communalist wolf in Gandhian sheep's clothing.

In some ways, it is in a better position than the CPM or the Congress (I). The former remains, essentially, a regional party, albeit with national connections. Its efforts to win adherents on a large scale in the Hindi belt have not met with significant success and, Kerala notwithstanding, it has a distinctly Bengali ambience. The BJP, like the Jana Sangh out of which it grew, is strongest in the Hindi heartland and has substantial support in states like Maharashtra and Gujarat. It is making strenuous attempts to reach out to the south. While it is still far from being a truly all-India party in the way the Congress(I) is, it has much more of a national presence than the CPM.

Where it scores over the ruling party is in not depending on one individual for its effectiveness in the way the Congress(I) does today. True, the BJP has set about building up Mr. A. B. Vajpayee, its president, as its pre-eminent leader. But, firstly, Mr. Vajpayee is at best a reluctant leader and, secondly, the BJP is unlikely to link its fortunes with Mr. Vajpayee's fate in the way the Congress (I) has tied its fortunes to Mrs. Gandhi's future.

Mrs. Gandhi has ensured that her party will be all but rudderless when she is not at its helm. Whether Mr. Rajiv Gandhi will fill the bill remains to be seen. Even if he does, however, the Congress (I) will remain the one-person band it is today. The BJP, on the other hand, bids fair to become a party with a wide band of leadership, supported at lower levels by capable juniors moving gradually upwards. The cadre structure, in the case of both the BJP and the CPM, guarantees in some measure that there will be no paucity of leaders emerging from the ranks in time.

Support

The BJP's big problem remains the RSS. As far as all the other parties are concerned, this is always a good stick to beat it with. The CPM, for instance, in effect invited the BJP to join it in the struggle against "authoritarianism"--read, Congress (I)--when Mr. Jyoti Basu said, after a CPM politburo meeting, that there was no reason to keep the BJP out. When the BJP did not seem likely to accept the invitation (it didn't, eventually), the CPM made out that it never made the offer! The Kerala chief minister, Mr. E. K. Nayanar, spelt out this new line when he said that, at least in Kerala, the CPM could hardly discuss collaboration with the BJP unless that party first clarified where it stood */vis-a-vis/ [in italics]* the RSS.

The CPM needed BJP support, rather than */vice versa./ [in italics]* The RSS-CPM cadre clashes were seen by the Congress (I) at the Centre as strengthening its claim that the breakdown of law and order was a worrying enough feature of CPM-led state governments to consider having them dismissed. It was crucial for the CPM to pre-empt any move for a Congress (I)-BJP link-up in Kerala and to include the BJP among the "anti-authoritarian" forces that would oppose any attempt to prise the CPM out of office not only in Kerala but in West Bengal as well. Despite this, the CPM did not hesitate to tar the BJP with the RSS brush when the Marxists' effort at roping in the BJP for their purposes came unstuck.

The BJP's own confusion about the RSS factor encourages equivocation and impairs its coherence. At Cochin, the differences between the "moderates," led by Mr. Vajpayee, and the "hardliners" over how the party should handle this factor were only too evident. The "moderates," favouring the "Vajpayee line," seem to believe that the RSS connection lends the party misleading and damaging associations which only joint action with other parties, not excluding the Congress (I), can help immediately to blur and eventually to make invisible. Mr. Vajpayee's inaugural address at Cochin was an expression of this line and it is clear that he wanted the party to view the CPM offer more favourably than it finally did. The division between the two sides on the CPM invitation to co-operate was papered over at Cochin only at the very end of the national council meeting in the form of an amendment to the political resolution. Where the pre-amendment version had fudged the issue, the amendment categorically ruled out collaborating with the CPM.

The BJP cannot hope to present a "national alternative" to the Congress (I) unless it cures itself of its schizophrenia over its RSS links and gives up wanting to be a part, however vital, of a wider opposition grouping against the Congress (I) or "authoritarianism" of call-it-what-you-will.

Nurtured

It cannot survive for a day without the RSS network. If its roots go deep into some sections of Indian political soil, it is only because they have been carefully nurtured for decades by RSS cadres. Since it has no identity outside the RSS and cannot be viable without the latter, it is futile for it to try and dissemble by subordinating its interests to those of a larger opposition entity in the hope that this will make everyone forget its RSS base. The miserable experience it had in the Janata should have convinced it once and for all of the stony barrenness, for it and for the others, of that kind of fractious enterprise.

Instead of hankering after some form of political association with the other opposition parties that would all but resurrect the Janata (1977 model), an association that would seek as impossibly now as then to reconcile irreconcilable constituents merely on the basis of a shared enmity towards Mrs. Gandhi, the BJP should muster the courage, will and self-confidence to go it alone. It should openly declare its RSS links, assert that they cannot be equated with communalism and justify them on political, electoral, cultural and other grounds.

This approach would have the merits of enabling the party to speak with one voice, promoting coherence in national politics through the accumulation of social forces around two or three major parties (instead of these forces splintering into any number of pieces clustering round myriad parties to the benefit of none), and leaving it to the people to choose from among the political wares on offer without any of the vendors attempting to present their goods as something other than what they are.

Following its association (in its previous incarnation as the Jana Sangh) with the JP movement just before, during and after the emergency, the BJP has acquired political respectability in substantial measure. This did not prevent it from being humiliated by those with whom it was once allied. More recently, however, as those erstwhile allies have languished, it has grown stronger. Now, it is well-positioned to cut the umbilical cord of its past alliances and grow to political maturity on its own.

DISGRUNTLED KERALA MARXISTS JOINING BJP

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 1 May 81 p 14

[Article by K. C. John]

[Text]

TRIVANDRUM, April 30.

ELEZHIKODE in Kerala is a cent per cent Muslim village. The CPM had just three followers there. The three have now joined the Bharatiya Janata Party, because they were disillusioned with Marxist promises and because the BJP alone could offer them "physical protection" against possible retaliation from the CPM musclemen.

A party member who left the CPM and joined the BJP was done to death a few days ago. Former CPM followers feel that the BJP alone could offer them protection through their trained RSS workers.

It is not as if there is an exodus from the CPM. But the BJP claims that most of the disillusioned Marxists prefer their party to any other. The "deserters" largely belong to the lower strata of society. One view is that the benefits of power that the CPM functionaries and prominent workers enjoy may not have percolated to the lower cadres.

Seizing the opportunity, the BJP has begun a systematic operation to identify

the frustrated elements and win them over. Its cadres appear to be well-trained to provide the "converts" with both political and physical support. Years ago, it was the undivided Communist Party that extracted the Congress workers in Kerala. Now it seems to be the privilege of the BJP to welcome the politically disgruntled CPM men.

A BJP worker has said in a lighter vein that some three decades ago the communists used to stage a popular drama, "You made me a communist". The theme was that the rich forced the have-nots to seek asylum in the Communist Party. Today it could be another drama entitled "You made me a BJP man". The theme would be disenchantment with the CPM.

However, things are not as rosy as the BJP workers would have one believe. Though its volunteers earned the admiration of one and all with their organising capabilities at the BJP's recently concluded national council session at Mattancherry, there were no crowds to greet the party demonstrations passing by.

CSO: 4220/7684

WEST BENGAL CPI LEADER COMMENTS ON DANGE EXPULSION

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 6 May 81 p 3

[Text] The West Bengal CPI leader, Mr Biswanath Mukherjee, has ruled out the possibility of a large-scale erosion of the party membership following the expulsion of Mr Dange by the national council and his reported decision to lead the All India Communist Party.

This is because, according to him, the former party chairman is not being supported either nationally or internationally. Not even one-third members of any State Council of the CPI are behind Mr Dange while the Soviet and other Communist parties of the world have no difference with the CPI on this issue. Only Mrs Gandhi and "some agencies" are trying in vain to break the party by their open support to the breakaway AICP.

Show cause notices, Mr Mukherjee said on Tuesday, were proposed to be served on 11 members of the party's Calcutta District Council, the unit most affected by the Dange problem while such notices had already been served on three other members of the council. The CDC has 63 members.

The State executive of the party, which will meet on May 21, has been empowered to study the organizational position in all districts and take disciplinary action wherever necessary. The party, according to Mr Mukherjee, takes steps only when the members concerned flout party discipline openly. The affected CDC members had violated discipline by holding a convention denouncing the party line. Mr Mukherjee added that Mr Dange's expulsion had had no impact on the BPTUC.

The CPI leader said that political bitterness at the lower level had stood in the way of finalizing the overall seat adjustments among the constituents of the Left Front and the CPI for the coming municipal elections. There had been agreement over 140 seats and disagreement in about 80 cases, mostly in Kharagpur, Contai, Garden Reach, Cooch Behar Dinhata and Purulia.

Despite this setback he maintained, the cause of Left unity had gained because of the agreement among Left parties for the majority of over 1,500 seats. "I do not hold anybody responsible for this setback" he added.

CSO: 4220/7708

DANGE NOT ALLOWED TO SPEAK AT BOMBAY WORKERS' MEET

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 3 May 81 p 5

[Text] May 2.

A peculiar aspect of the May Day celebrations in Bombay was that Mr. S. A. Dange could not address the joint meeting organised by the AITUC and the CITU at Bhoiwada Maidan yesterday though he is the president of the AITUC.

The Maharashtra executive of the AITUC at a meeting had decided a few days earlier that Mr. Dange should not be allowed to address the May Day rally in view of his activities against the CPI.

It seems Mr. Dange was keen on addressing the joint meeting so that he could make clear publicly his stand regarding his expulsion and other issues before the CPI and CPM workers. However, according to sources close to Mr. Dange, a note from the state AITUC executive asking him not to address the rally was delivered to him two days ago. The letter was signed by Mr. G. V. Chitnis, general secretary of the Girni Kamgar Union, who had been close to Mr. Dange for several years.

Mr. B. S. Dhume, AITUC leader, told this reporter that there was nothing wrong in asking Mr. Dange not to address the rally. In fact, last year, Mr. Dange had himself ignored the AITUC by refusing to address the May Day rally organised by the AITUC and the CITU. Instead, he had then chosen to address a meeting convened by his daughter, Mrs. Roza Deshpande.

Yesterday too, Mr. Dange had to address a meeting organised by his daughter and her All-India Communist Party which he had joined earlier in the day.

The Maharashtra AITUC executive meeting deciding against Mr. Dange's speech was attended by the president, Mr. A. B. Bardhan, Mr. B. S. Dhume and all other members.

At the Maharashtra Maidan meeting last night, Mr. Dange made only an indirect reference to his expulsion from the CPI and announced his joining the AICP.

The AITUC-CITU rally was addressed by Mr. S. Y. Kolhatkar, Mr. P. K. Kurane and Mr. K. L. Bajaj of the CITU, and Mr. B. S. Dhume, Mr. G. V. Chitnis and Mr. Sitaram Jagtap of the AITUC.

The Hind Mazdoor Sabha held a rally at the Podar College hall yesterday morning. Mr. B. R. Dandavate, the new president of the HMS, strongly attacked the government for the price spiral and anti-labour policies.

Among other speakers were Mr. K. A. Khan, dock workers' unionist, Mr. Vasant Gupte and Mr. Prabhakar More of the textile unions.

CSO: 4220/7697

DANGE JOINS ALL-INDIA CP, MAKES MAY DAY SPEECH

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 2 May 81 p 12

[Text] May 1.

Mr. S. A. Dange, veteran communist leader, today joined the All-India Communist Party founded by his daughter, Mrs. Roza Deshpande, a few months ago.

Mr. Dange, who was expelled from the CPI last month, made the announcement of his joining the AICP at a May Day rally organised by a "May Day Joint Committee" at the Maharashtra High School ground tonight.

He said he had filled the membership form of the party at 5 p.m. before coming for the meeting. Later, Mrs. Roza Deshpande announced towards the end of the meeting that she had resigned as the secretary-general of the party to make way for Mr. Dange.

The 82-year-old former CPI chairman and founder of that party, said sarcastically that he did not have to leave any party to join the new party for which he was thankful to Mr. Rajeshwar Rao. This was an indirect reference to his expulsion from the CPI.

May Day was celebrated by a number of trade unions during the day today. The AITUC and the CITU, the trade union organs of the CPI and the CPM, held a joint meeting at Bhoiwada Maidan, indicating the coming closer of the two parties.

Mr. Dange made his appearance at a public meeting after quite some time and his advanced age seemed to have had some visible effect on him.

At the very beginning, he said he would not be able to speak for long and old people should not talk much. He referred to his 82 years and said he might enter the 83rd soon.

He told the fairly large gathering that imperialism was the first enemy of the country and imperialist forces surrounding us were out to attack us.

However, Mrs. Indira Gandhi was taking steps to prevent imperialists from taking over India, he said. Mr. Dange also demanded the nationalisation of 75 monopoly houses in the country.

Indira's Offer

He quoted Mrs. Gandhi as telling him that she would do this if there was a strong agitation on the issue as there was before bank nationalisation.

He called upon the AICP to launch a programme on the issue. How could he give such advice to the party, he asked and then disclosed that he had joined the party.

He called for a tripartite management of industrial units and called for building up of a strong trade union movement. It was easy to talk of revolution, he said, and asked why the CPM government had not nationalised jute mills in West Bengal though the demand for the take-over dated as far back as 1925.

He also made a reference to the need for left parties coming together but did not elaborate. Mr. Dange defended the Soviet presence in Afghanistan.

He also explained that the purse of Rs. 2 lakhs presented to him on his 75th birthday seven years ago had been utilised for building a trade union study class centre at Khandala. Only through training could the class struggle be conducted properly, he said.

Mr. Dange also attacked certain socialist leaders who ridiculed Karl Marx's Capital. He said even the capitalists in West Germany treated the book with great respect.

Earlier, Mr. Dange was profusely garlanded by several people. Among others who spoke on the occasion were Mrs. Roza Deshpande, Mr. Bhagwan Thorat, president of the Girni Kamgar Union, and Mr. Kari Jadhav.

The committee which organised the meeting consisted mainly of the Girni Kamgar Union and the All-India pharmaceutical employees' union led by Mrs. Deshpande.

CSO: 4220/7690

URBAN INSURGENCY MAKES APPEARANCE IN ASSAM

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 2 May 81 pp 1, 9

[Text] Shillong, May 1.

Urban insurgency, which continues to convulse the frontier state of Manipur, has apparently surfaced in Assam as well.

Attempts by small groups of terrorists in Assam at selective killings and engineering a series of bomb blasts along the railway track and the oil pipeline between Duliajan in upper Assam and Barauni in Bihar are reminiscent of the early stages of guerilla warfare in Manipur.

Alarmed by the spurt in subversive activities of the extremist elements in Assam, the state government has alerted the security forces throughout the state and tightened the security measures around the state secretariat complex in Dispur and vital installations in various parts of the state.

Many parts of Assam have already been declared "disturbed areas" and provisions of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act invoked, giving the security forces extraordinary [as published] powers.

The bomb attack outside the bedroom of the Gauhati residence of Dr. Tarini Mohan Barua, president of the Assam Janata Dal (AJD) and former minister, on Wednesday was the fourth attempt to liquidate marked men in the last six weeks.

Two bomb blasts, believed to have been set off to kill two legislators, rocked the heavily guarded MLA's hostel in Gauhati on March 17, on the eve of the budget session of the state assembly. In another explosion in Jorhat on April 6, Mr. E. S. Parthasarathy, commissioner of upper Assam, was killed in his office chamber.

The bomb blast at Dr. Barua's residence assumes significance in the light of his reported decision to quit the AJD and join the ruling Congress (I) with an important position in the Taimur ministry.

The dastardly attack on Mr. Parthasarathy is believed to have been an act of reprisal for the tough line he had adopted towards the Assam agitators.

The CBI, which has taken over investigations of the series of bomb explosions since December 6, when the Taimur ministry was installed in Assam, is reported

to have made a breakthrough in detecting the hidden hand behind the acts of sabotage.

Investigations made so far by the CBI team, led by Mr. C. N. Sharma, deputy inspector-general of CBI, have revealed that a number of small but determined groups of terrorists are active in Assam. The authorities have, however, not yet determined whether the groups are working in close concert or independently.

Some of these groups include die-hard members of the little known Jatiyu Rahi Bahini, founded in September by the former officer of the Special Security Bureau (SSB), Mr. Birkuju Choudhri, a section of the Purbanchaliya Lok Parishad (PLP) led by Mr. Hemanta Gogoi, a faction of the Jatiatabadi Yuba Chhatra Parishad, the Binode Mishra group of Naxalites and the militant elements the All-Assam Students' Union (AASU) and the All-Assam Gana Sangram Parishad (AAGSP).

The CBI also suspects the involvement of some leading members of the Assam Jatiatabadi Dal, a constituent of the AAGSP, in the recent bomb blasts.

Nripen Goswami, general secretary of the Gauhati unit of the parishad, Pudma Choudhury, president of the unit, and Abdul Jabbar, a prominent member, have been arrested.

Investigations in connection with the bomb blasts killing Mr. Parthasarathy reportedly indicate that a group of extremists has recently returned from the Akehin area in Burma, across Tirup district of Arunachal Pradesh, after having been trained in guerilla warfare and subversion techniques at a camp organised by the pro-Beijing underground Naga leader, T. Movia.

Another batch, which is believed to have completed its training at a camp in Kaintiapur in Bangladesh, across Jaintia Hills district of Meghalaya, is understood to be ready to return to Assam.

A third batch of militants is reported to have gone to Manipur to take training in the outlawed people's liberation army camp organised by the Tibet-returned Manipur underground leader, Iseshwar.

The Maipka Sharma faction of the banned PREPAK party in Manipur is also reported to have established links with extremists in Assam.

CSO: 4220/7690

GANDHI CHAIRS MEETING ON INDIAN SCIENCE POLICY

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 2 May 81 pp 1, 5

[Text] India's science policy for the future emphasises the need for active research on the frontiers of the new sciences apart from effective implementation of all the continuing and projected schemes in the science and technology sector.

A joint meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Science and Technology and the Science Advisory Committee to the Cabinet, held on Friday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, decided on measures towards successfully implementing these twin goals.

Among the decisions taken were the drawing up of a short-term plan to find gainful employment for the about three lakh unemployed scientific and technical personnel, the creation of a national registry on the technology of all foreign collaborations and the need to percolate science awareness not only to the school level, but to rural areas as well.

Mrs Gandhi, in her address, reminded the scientists that self-reliance should be the core of all scientific and technological endeavours in the country. [as published] Special efforts, she said, were needed to develop the capacity to absorb imported technology and to ensure implementation of the proposals made in the Rs 3,400 crore science and technology section of the sixth Plan.

Briefing newsmen on the deliberations at the meeting, Planning Commission member Dr M S Swaminathan and Department of Science and Technology secretary Prof M G K Menon said it was also felt that India should continue to work towards breakthrough in 'frontier fields' like genetic engineering, and the atomic and space sciences despite the scarcity of resources.

Genetic engineering specially was of vital significance in many fields, including medicine and agriculture and it was decided to create a work force to study its scope, they said. Emphasis was also placed on continued development of alternate energy sources, waste processing and the like.

The Science Advisory Committee to the Cabinet (SACC), created recently to advise the Government on science and technology, will meet four times a year. It met on Thursday also.

In her address, Mrs Gandhi asked the SAC not to ignore the social implications of technological changes. She pointed out that many aspects in rural development

programme seemed to hurt the weaker sections most. "This must be avoided," she said.

She called for a social impact analysis in transferring new technologies to the field.

The Prime Minister stressed the need to consolidate the existing infrastructure while embarking on newer areas. She called for better utilisation of local resources and appropriate technologies for recycling wastes.

Emphasising the need for inculcating greater scientific consciousness among the people so that science and technology encompassed all aspects of life and living, Mrs Gandhi felt schools, universities and voluntary and non-voluntary organisations could join hands in promoting a 'climate of science'.

The Prime Minister called for coordination and the establishment of more effective linkages to ensure optimum utilisation of available resources. [as published]

Referring to the energy sector where different departments and ministries were involved, Mrs Gandhi said there was need for an effective coordinating mechanism where in aspects of energy conservation, generation and utilisation were attended to speedily and effectively.

On the information gap prevailing in several areas, Mrs Gandhi said this was because of the absence of integrated information regarding the on-going programmes in backward areas.

She suggested charting of a map in which accurate data on the existing facilities for science and technology and industrial units could be plotted.

Dr Swaminathan told newsmen that SAC had decided to develop the science and technology base of the universities. SAC was of the view that educational institutions should be provided with adequate funds for this purpose.

It was agreed that there was need for internal reorganisation of the educational institutions. The rules and regulations should be framed to absorb and effectively utilise the resources meant for them.

SAC suggested that to begin with, a provision of Rs 50 crores for more science and technology efforts in the university sector should be made.

To remedy regional imbalance in science and technology the SAC approved the establishment of a science and technology centre in Arunachal Pradesh as a 'test case'.

On a suggestion by Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao, who is a member of cost, it has been decided to set up a programme office for technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC) with a programme director in the DST.

In the case of medical research the SAC decided to set up a department of medical research and education in the Ministry of Health with scientists, who would be secretary and Director-General of the Indian Council of Medical Research.

The meeting was attended by all except two scientists of the SAC and Finance Minister R Venkataraman, who is away.

Dr Swaminathan said the SAC will meet at least four times a year. The next meeting will be held in July.

CSO: 4220/7693

HIDAYATULLAH SCORES INDIAN PLANNING PROCESS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 1 May 81 p 7

[Text]

NEW DELHI, April 30 (UPI) : Vice-President M. Hidayatullah today criticised planning in India as being based more on idealism than on needs.

Various plans formulated since independence had never been fully implemented, he said, while inaugurating a seminar on the sixth five-year plan and national objectives.

Referring to Jawaharlal Nehru's vision on planning as means for country's development, Mr. Hidayatullah said he had been greatly inspired by the Japanese example of industrialised economy. He said Nehru felt this would be the best example for India to follow in our bid to achieve industrialisation without realising the basic character and needs of the people.

The vice-president said that the Japanese have been one of the most industrious and hard working people in the world dedicated to the cause whereas an average Indian did not possess those qualities.

Mr. Hidayatullah said the need of the country today was food and, he

thought, the earlier plans should have laid more emphasis on agriculture rather than industrialisation.

He said the Indian concept of planning was based on the Russian model and it had to be remembered that even in USSR, there had been no appreciable development after the first few plans. It was the success of the subsequent plans which had made them one of the most advanced industrialised nations in the world.

The vice-president thought that the Indian concept of planning had also suffered because of too much centralisation. This had resulted in a spoon-feeding to the states which prevented them from becoming self-reliant and conscious of their own development potential.

Delivering a keynote address the minister of state for industry, Dr. Charanjit Chaudhary, said planning as a process of development had not been greatly liked by the industry because they thought it was controlled. He said planning was necessary to translate a country's imagination into various schemes of development.

CSO: 4220/7683

CPI-M POLITBURO ISSUES STATEMENT ON BIHARSHARIF

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 6 May 81 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, May 5.--The CPI(M) Politburo today expressed its grave concern over the tragic developments in Biharsharif and the neighbouring villages in Bihar.

In a statement in New Delhi, it said that as in several previous cases of atrocities against the weaker sections in the communal riots too, the local administration and the Congress (I)-led State Government in Bihar had completely failed in their elementary duty to protect the minorities.

The Politburo noted that the Biharsharif riots were a continuation of the Aligarh, Jamshedpur and Moradabad--all of them occurring in Congress (I)-ruled States. This underlined the total "unreality" of the ruling party's talk of national integration. It mentioned the atmosphere of communal tension created by those committed to such disruptive ideologies as "Hindu Rashtra", "Islamic fundamentalism", "Khalistan" etc. The forces representing these ideologies had been and continued to be busy setting one community against another and thus paved the way for the riots. The Ruling Congress (I) and its Central Government were using their control over the State-owned media like the All India Radio and doordarshan not to fight, but to encourage these ideologies, it alleged.

The Bharatiya Janata Party Parliamentary group at its meeting this morning expressed concern over the outbreak of communal violence in Biharsharif and called for the appointment of an inquiry commission.

CSO: 4220/7708

AGRICULTURE MINISTER: NO PLANS FOR LEVY ON FARMERS

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 6 May 81 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, May 5.--The Government made two important denials in the Rajya Sabha today. First, it had no proposal to impose a levy on farmers, and, secondly, the Government had no plan to import wheat.

However, Rao Birendra Singh, Minister for Agriculture, told the House that he would "welcome" a levy on traders.

The Minister, who was replying to points raised by members during a discussion on the call-attention motion tabled by Mr Satpal Malik (Lok Dal) and others, denied that the farmers were not selling wheat to the Government agencies.

Rao Birendra Singh denied that the State Governments were imposing restrictions on the movement of foodgrain and said that Mr Satpal Malik's complaint about the sealing of borders in Haryana was not true as far as he knew. He agreed to the suggestion made by Mr K. C. Pant (Cong-U) that an inquiry should be made into the reported restrictions imposed by the Madhya Pradesh Government. As for the denial of wagons, his Ministry had been demanding wagons on a priority basis to supply foodgrain to deficit areas and the north-eastern region.

Most of the speakers had doubts whether farmers were coming forward to the Government agencies to sell wheat. Mr Malik, Mr Bhanu Pratap Singh, Mr Kalraj Mishra (BJP) were the main speakers to highlight this point. Mr H. K. Singh Surjeet (CPI-M) wondered whether the minimum support price was remunerative--a point also stressed by Mr Bhanu Pratap Singh.

Mr Kalraj Mishra alleged that in some districts in eastern U.P., officials were absent at procurement centres and were in league with the traders. But the Minister said that these were the deficit areas. Mr Mishra said that the Minister was "parrying" the question.

Earlier, the Minister said that some reports had appeared in the Press that certain political parties were asking the farmers not to take their produce to the mandis. However, the State Governments had not reported any such attitude on the part of the farmers.

According to information available yesterday 11.23 lakh tons of wheat had been produced as against 13.31 lakh tons on the same date in the last season. The

harvesting of the crop in Punjab and Haryana as well as in certain parts of western U.P. was delayed because of unseasonal rain. The peak season had not started and it was hoped that in the coming weeks more crops would arrive in the market and procurement would go up.

The Central Government had not asked the States to restrict the free movement of wheat. To maximise procurement, the Government of Madhya Pradesh had imposed "with our concurrence," a 50% levy on licensed dealers in the State except in the Chhattigarh region.

CSO: 4220/7708

DEVELOPMENT OF KARNATAKA FARMERS' AGITATION TOLD

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 6 May 81 p 8

[Article by C. N. Vijaya]

[Text] The farmers' agitation in Karnataka has got enmeshed in a war of words between the Chief Minister, Mr R. Gundu Rao, and Opposition leaders and the president of the State Farmers' Association, Mr H. S. Rudrappa. The main demands of the farmers are remunerative prices for their produce and writing off of all agricultural loans. In the beginning the agitation did not hit any headlines because it was confined to a small section of farmers in one district. For four years farmers in the Malaprabha Command Development Area in Dharwar district in North Karnataka had made repeated representations to the Government about the arbitrary levy of betterment and water taxes by officials of the Irrigation Department and nonpayment of compensation to those farmers whose land had been acquired to build the Malaprabha irrigation project.

Finding that their representations had no effect on the Government, the farmers launched an agitation last May by offering "dharna" before irrigation and revenue offices in the area. The police watched and did nothing as the agitation was peaceful. This went on for more than two months. But the Government was unmoved. To draw the Government's situation to their demands, the farmers gave a call for Dharwar "bandh" on July 21. The violent incidents which occurred that day at Nargund and Navalgund, two interior towns in the district, and the police firings resulting in four deaths made it a "black Monday".

Lack of Tact

It was stated that the lack of tact on the part of the tehsildar of Nargund provided the spark to light the day's fiery incidents. He reportedly ignored the pleadings of farmers to close his office for the day. They requested him with folded hands, but the tehsildar trod on them to open his office. Whatever the provocation, the violence unleashed by the agitators was unprecedented. The tehsildar's office was ransacked, all files in the irrigation office at Nava were thrown into a bonfire, Government vehicles were damaged and three policemen were killed. After seeing the extent of the damage in the two towns, the Chief Minister reported to the legislature, both Houses of which were in session, that a situation like the one obtaining in Assam was sought to be created in the State. He alleged that it was pre-planned by anti-social elements and that in the name of farmers shops were looted and wives and children of officials threatened. "Such things are not done by agriculturists", he said.

The Nargund and Naval Gund incidents snowballed. Soon a number of districts, most of them in North Karnataka, were affected by the farmers' agitation. Violence was widespread and the police fired at a dozen places killing over 40 people. No month in the past seven months was free from violence and police firings. Like the Government, the Opposition parties too started taking note of the farmers' demands only after the Nargund and Naval Gund incidents. The police firings gave the parties, the Congress (U), the Janata, the CPI, the CPI(M) BJP and the Lok Dal, the opportunity they were waiting for to jump into the fray and try to take over the leadership of the agitation.

In an attempt to isolate the Opposition, the Chief Minister invited the farmers' leaders to Bangalore for talks on their demands. Mr Rudrappa, president of the Farmers' Association, put forward 19 demands and the Chief Minister accepted as many as 16 of them. He announced that acceptance of the demands would result in the farmers benefiting to the extent of Rs 86 crores. Thus an euphoric atmosphere was created [as published] which made the Farmers' Association suspend the agitation. But the euphoria did not last long. When break-up of the Rs 86-crore concession was made available, the farmers' leaders and Opposition parties found that the real benefit was small and that the main demands for better prices for farm produce and writing off all agricultural loans had been ignored. The Government improved on the support prices for grain announced by the Centre but this did not satisfy the farming community as its demand was for a much higher price. As for waiving agricultural loans, the Government pleaded its inability to do so since the Reserve Bank, the main source of credit, was opposed to that.

It took some time for the Opposition parties, particularly the Congress (U) and the two Communist parties, to reestablish their identity with the farming community. This they had to do carefully. They had to support the Farmers' Association, which was conducting the agitation by scrupulously avoiding identifying itself with any political party, and at the same time organize the farming community. With this end in view the Progressive Democratic Front, consisting of the Congress (U), the CPI, the CPI(M) and the Lok Dal, came into being. The BJP and the Janata Party were kept out.

The Front saw in the just ended Maharashtra "long march" of farmers a welcome opportunity to organize a similar march in the State. The Nargund-to-Bangalore march (460 kilometres) was organized to focus attention on the farmers' demands and press for a judicial inquiry into the police firings on agitating farmers. The response to the march in the beginning was moderate, but it picked up as the farmers' trek progressed. The reception on the way, particularly by villagers who came forward spontaneously to feed the marchers, and the publicity in the local Press helped. The march ended peacefully before the Vidhan Soudha (State Secretariat) in Bangalore and the Front leaders presented a memorandum to the Chief Minister detailing the farmers' demands. The Chief Minister refused to meet the marchers despite pleadings by Mr Aziz Sait, who was a colleague of Mr Rao in the Devaraj Urs Cabinet. But he did not lose the opportunity to score a political point against the Opposition, particularly the Congress (U) which had taken a leading part in the march, by dubbing the marchers as "hired men". The farmers felt hurt by the uncharitable remark and demonstrated before the Secretariat demanding an apology from the Chief Minister. Mr Rao refused and the police had to remove the demonstrators.

From then on the Chief Minister has made it a point to denounce the agitation and their leaders. Speaking at a function in Sagar, in Shimoga district, he dismissed the State Farmers' Association as a "spurious organization". Without referring either to Mr Rudrappa, president, or other office-bearers of the Association, he challenged them to contest the Assembly elections due in 1983. "Prepare yourselves from now for the elections. If you win I will accept you as leaders", he told them and added significantly, "I will see to it that none among you will be able to save the deposit."

Feeling of Hurt

Apparently the Chief Minister suffers from a feeling of hurt. He has said it repeatedly that his is the first Government in 25 years to invite farmers' representatives to the Secretariat, entertain them over talks and to issue orders accepting 16 of the 19 demands. His predecessors, he points out, never allowed farmers' representatives to climb the steps of the Vidhan Soudha. He sees a "force" behind the farmers' agitation but does not spell out what it is. Perhaps he feels the agitation is by "rich farmers" to derive benefits for themselves and small and marginal farmers and landless workers are not with them. The leaders of the agitation, he says, own 150 to 200 hectares each in the name of their daughters, sons-in-law and grand-children and pay hardly Rs 3 a day to farm labourers.

The Chief Minister's charge has been denied by Mr Rudrappa and Opposition leaders. The Farmers' Association chief has accused Mr Rao of having a "jaundiced mind" and challenged him to prove that the leaders of the agitation had extensive land holdings. He said: "Mr Rao is not an agriculturist, neither is he a decent politician. We have made representations to solve the farmers' problems, but we get bullets instead. So far 60 people have been killed in police firings. The State will not stand to gain anything by such a person". But the briefest, and significant, comment comes from Mr D. B. Chandre Gowda, president of the PCC(U) and leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council: "I do not expect anything better from him (Mr Gundu Rao)".

CSO: 4220/7708

WORK OF VIZAG STEEL PLANT TO BEGIN IN OCTOBER

Madras THE HINDU in English 1 May 81 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, April 30.

The construction work for the steel plant at Visakhapatnam will begin next October, the Steel and Mines Minister, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, told the Parliamentary Consultative Committee for the Ministry on Wednesday.

The total area of land needed for the project is 10,800 hectares of which 6,400 hectares have already been acquired.

The current year's budget provides Rs. 130 crores for the steel plant. Earlier Rs. 71 crores had been spent on it.

An inter-ministerial committee had held negotiations with foreign firms in regard to the terms and conditions and cost of the plant.

The final decision about the plant will be taken shortly, after the recommendations of the inter-ministerial committee are received.

Meanwhile, a token provision of Rs. 1 crore has been made for preliminary expenses.

Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants Ltd (MECON) has submitted a report on alternative technologies and product mix for the proposed Vijayanagar steel plant.

The study was undertaken for assessing the suitability of iron-making, independent of the blast furnace route and of coking coal which has been proving a handicap in existing steel plants.

The detailed project report for the Vijayanagar plant, based on traditional technology, was being updated by MECON to incorporate techno-economic advances so as to optimise the economic viability and operational efficiency of the project.

CSO: 4220/7686

BRIEFS

NEW VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR--New Delhi, May 1 (PTI): The new ambassador of the socialist republic of Vietnam, Mr. Nguyen Quang Tao presented his credentials to the President, Mr. N. Sanjiva Reddy, at Rashtrapathi Bhavan here today. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 2 May 81 p 9]

ASSAM OIL PROSPECTS--Shillong, May 1: Studies conducted by Oil India experts so far indicate sizable oil reserves in the Bogapani area, near Duliajan in upper Assam. According to Oil India sources, there is a possibility of a new oilfield being developed in the area. A detailed seismic survey has been taken up. Oil India is reported to have modified its drilling programme, taking into account the intensified exploration work in the area. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 2 May 81 p 7]

CONGRESS-I MAYORAL WIN--Jabalpur, May 1 (PTI): The Congress (I) retained the mayoral post of the Jabalpur municipal corporation. Mr. Shivnath Sahu defeated his nearest rival, Mr. Jitendra Sharma (BJP), by a margin of 36 votes in the election to the 66-member body. Mrs. Annapurna Tiwari (Cong.-I) was elected deputy mayor, securing 49 votes, against her BJP rival, Mr. Raghunath Yadav, who got 16. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 2 May 81 p 7]

CABINET SECRETARY--New Delhi, May 1: Mr. Krishnaswamy Raosaheb, former principal secretary to the Prime Minister, has taken over today as cabinet secretary. Mr. P. C. Alexander takes over tomorrow as principal secretary to the Prime Minister. The cabinet has placed on record its appreciation of the services rendered by the outgoing cabinet secretary, Mr. S. S. Grewal. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 2 May 81 p 12]

BOMBAY SUBAREA CHIEF--April 30: Brig. N. C. Mehra today took over as Bombay sub-area commander from Brig. S. Krishnamurthy, who has been appointed provost marshal at army headquarters. Passing out from the Indian Military Academy, Brig. Mehra was commissioned in the Gurkha Rifles in 1952 and served later with the UN peace-keeping force in the Congo. He was for some time the chief instructor at the Counter-Insurgency and Jungle Warfare School. He was promoted brigadier in 1975. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 1 May 81 p 4]

PROJECT IN INDONESIA--New Delhi, April 30 (UNI): The Projects and Equipment Corporation of India Limited (PEC) today signed an associateship agreement with Walchandnagar Industries Limited for setting up of a Rs. 100 crore cement plant at Padang in Indonesia on turn-key basis. The 2,000-tonne-per-day cement plant would be completed within a period of three years. The contract was signed in Jakarta by Mr. Anand Krishna, executive director, on behalf of PEC and Mr. Joni Marsinih, president-director on behalf of P. T. Semen Padang of Indonesia. Mr. Krishna told newsmen that the present contract was the largest industrial turn-key project ever signed by India for execution abroad. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 1 May 81 p 7]

BONN INVESTMENT GROWS--April 30: After years of stagnation, German investment increased substantially during the year 1980. Latest statistics from Germany reveal that German investment in India increased from Rs. 714.8 million to Rs. 767.6 million in 1980. This increase is due mainly to the formation of new Indo-German joint ventures. However, as compared to the main competitors for German investment in Asia, India continues to receive only a small portion of new German investments abroad. As compared to to previous year, [as published] German investment in Singapore increased from DM 225.9 million to DM 367.6 million in 1980. German investment in Hong Kong went up from DM 152.8 million to DM 216.2 million, in Japan from DM 385.1 million to DM 416.1 million and in Saudi Arabia from DM 89.2 million to DM 117.8 million. India's investment in Germany amounts to DM 22.7 million as per 31st December 1980. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 1 May 81 p 14]

CSO: 4220/7685

NEWS COVERAGE OF GARUDA DC-9 HIJACKING

Hijacked After Leaving Palembang

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 30 Mar 81 pp 1, 12

[Text] Penang, 29 March--Mrs Hulda Panjaitan, nee Tobing, who is 76 years old, was the only passenger freed by the hijackers of the Garuda DC-9 aircraft when it made a stop in Penang on Saturday afternoon [28 March]. She prayed continuously from the time of the hijacking until she descended from the aircraft.

The story of the trip of this grandmother begins in Ampenan (Lombok). She had gone there to see her son. Last Thursday [26 March] Mrs Panjaitan was taken by her son to Denpasar. She spent a night in Jakarta, and it was only on Saturday morning [28 March] that she took the Garuda DC-9 flight to Medan, which stopped off at Palembang. In Palembang Mrs Panjaitan did not descend from the aircraft, as did all the other passengers.

The aircraft took off again for Medan. Shortly after it was in the air, and after the warning lights had been turned off and the stewardesses began to serve refreshments, a commotion was heard in the rear of the aircraft. Mrs Panjaitan said, "I didn't know what was going on in the back there. It was as if some people were involved in a fight. Suddenly, two men came from the back of the aircraft, going forward. They said, 'All right, hands up, everybody! Go to the back of the aircraft!'"

As Mrs Panjaitan remembers it, everyone was led to the back of the aircraft to occupy the seats there, leaving the front section empty. She couldn't recall when the hijackers appeared, one by one. As she saw it, there were four men actively moving about and giving orders. One of them had white skin or rather white skin, a mustache, and reddish hair. He spoke in a language which, according to Mrs Panjaitan, was English.

Later, the passengers were ordered to put their watches, rings, necklaces, bracelets, other jewelry, money, and identification cards on a table. A stewardess, watched by a hijacker, put all of these items into a plastic bag. When the aircraft landed, Mrs Panjaitan did not know where they were. All of the passengers were ordered to remain quietly in their seats and were not allowed to talk. Mrs Panjaitan was crying and her legs hurt her because she had been sitting for too long a time in conditions of tension. She told SINAR HARAPAN that, suddenly, a hijacker came to her and said, "Come on, lady, you're getting out. You're on in years. Just go."

When she had gotten down from the aircraft and was walking toward a motorcycle, Mrs Panjaitan looked around her and saw banana trees and some old buildings. This did not look like an airport to her. "I thought that here I was going to be shot to death. But why just me," she said, repeating the feeling she had at the time. However, her escort, Police Inspector Nasir, calmed her and told her not to be afraid because he was a Malaysian police officer.

The control tower at Bayan Lepas (Penang) knew of the hijacking incident when the Garuda aircraft was 140 miles (224 km) away or about 30 minutes after takeoff. The aircraft did not ask permission to land. At 1148 hours it stated that it would land. All aircraft in the air were instructed by the tower to keep away from Bayan Lepas, and the hijacked Garuda aircraft was requested to park in an isolated area at the north side of the landing strip, near the factories in the free trade zone. Minister of Home Affairs Tan Sri Ghazali Syafie, who also has the Malaysian police force under him, was informed. An operations center was established in the tower, under the chief of police of Penang, Haji Zaman Khan. For communications with the aircraft the hijackers were only willing to deal with the head of the Garuda office, Supangat Yuzar, through the captain of the aircraft, Herman Rante.

The first request of the hijackers was that they be sent a map of the world with international air routes on it. They also asked for additional fuel. Later, they asked for packages of cooked rice for 60 people. There was heard from the tower the voice of a hijacker who said to the Garuda captain, "No delay is permitted."

The hijackers asked that the map of the world be brought to the aircraft by a 15 year old child, traveling on foot. The tower rejected this because the aircraft was too far away. Finally, it was agreed that the map be brought by a man wearing only shorts and who could ride on a motorcycle, but this would have to be parked about 50 meters from the aircraft.

At 1355 the hijackers agreed to release an old woman and asked that she be met by a young woman wearing shorts and a short-sleeved shirt. The tower replied that it would be difficult to find such a young woman who would be willing to approach the aircraft. Finally, it was agreed that the man bringing the map, Police Inspector Nasir, would return to accompany the old woman, named Hulda Panjaitan, nee Tobing, who was 76 years old.

The hijackers of the Garuda DC-9 appeared to be very careful about everything. A tank truck with fuel which came to the aircraft at 1445 had to go around the aircraft twice. The purpose of this was apparently to let the hijackers see if there were police hiding behind the tank truck and waiting to attack them, as once happened in another place. The total amount of fuel loaded into the aircraft was reported to be about 10,000 liters. With its tanks full the DC-9 aircraft could fly for 4 hours and one-half hours, but usually, because of the security factor, it was only flown a maximum of 3 and a half hours.

The request of Garuda representative Supangat that a Garuda crew more experienced on international routes be permitted to go aboard the aircraft was rejected by the hijackers. In fact, in Penang there was such a Garuda crew led by Captain Sayogo which on the following day, according to the plan, was to fly to Medan. Captain Herman Rante was reported to be not yet qualified for flying international air routes.

At about 1500, when a small aircraft with the party of Minister Tan Sri Ghazali was about to land, the hijackers rejected the landing, perhaps because they thought that the aircraft was bringing assault troops. The entire international airport at Bayan Lepas was closed from 1200 to 1800, with the result that hundreds of passengers were filling the restaurant and waiting rooms.

The hijackers were beginning to lose patience in waiting for food in the form of packages of cooked rice. They must have been convinced that it was not easy to find a catering firm in a short time. Finally, at about 1545 two police officers wearing only shorts and singlet approached the hijacked aircraft, bringing packages of rice and a side dish of chicken, together with a large thermos bottle filled with tea.

At 1607 the Garuda DC-9 took off from Penang, but the operations center in the tower continued to follow it until a report was received that the aircraft had landed in Bangkok. It is reported that Minister Tan Sri Ghazali instructed all airports in Malaysia not to permit the Garuda aircraft to land if it returned from Bangkok.

Passenger List

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 30 Mar 81 p 1

[Text] The list of passengers who boarded the hijacked Garuda aircraft in Jakarta on Saturday morning [28 March] is as follows: 1) Badi Suwandi, 2) Ali Umar Biem, 3) Darma Wijaya, 4) Anwar, 5) Asmar Pohan, 6) Higa, 7) Heischaan, 8) Eddy Mulyono, 9) Irawan, 10) Kusdiarso, 11) Lukman, 12) Panjaitan, 13) Manurung, 14) Nurhadidjah, 15) Schneider, 16) Siesem, 17) Zuraida, 18) Sembiring, 19) Silitonga, 20) Siregar, 21) Wainwright, 22) Trimurniabid, 23) Mursidin, 24) Hunt, 25) Adi Karang, 26) Junaedi, 27) Roy Sekewagi, 28) Abidin, 29) Abidin Usman, 30) Musril Hanafiah, 31) Tjipto Harsono, 32) Kai Siu Yan, 33) Sianturi, 34) Pasaribu.

The passengers who boarded the aircraft in Palembang, according to data obtained by SINAR HARAPAN on Sunday [29 March] were as follows: 1) Wendy, 2) Sofyan, 3) Maluizal, 4) Susanto, 5) A Aulaitupa, 6) Mulyono, 7) Zulfikar, 8) Marsi, 9) Budianto S, 10) Prapat, 11) David Manos Wendy, 12) Budi Nararja, 13) Wahono, 14) Mahyuddin.

Two Passengers Escape

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 30 Mar 81 pp 1, 12

[Excerpts] Don Muang Airport, Bangkok, 29 March—The eyewitness report of SINAR HARAPAN journalist Panda Nababan from Don Muang International airport in Bangkok states that the Garuda DC-9 aircraft "Woyla," which was hijacked Saturday morning [28 March] at 1730 [sic; probably should read 0730] local time (same as Jakarta), arrived this afternoon [28 March] at this airport [Don Muang International Airport, Bangkok].

The first Indonesian journalist on the scene, who arrived Saturday evening at Don Muang International Airport in Bangkok, reports that the hijacked Garuda aircraft is parked at the southern end of the landing street, about two kilometers from the passenger terminal. Its position is just to the right of the Thai Air Force VIP building.

The position of the Garuda aircraft does not interfere with the flow of civilian as well as military air traffic. Since the aircraft landed from Penang, Malaysia, after having been hijacked, Thai Air Force police and special troops of the Thai Army have been continuously watching it, from a distance of 300 meters. The hijackers do not allow anyone to approach it.

On Saturday night [28 March] all lights in the aircraft were turned off, and that night there was no request for food. It is believed that the ransom received from Penang, Malaysia, is still available. [Sic; the word "ransom" here may refer to food provided at Penang airport to the hijacked aircraft.]

The SINAR HARAPAN reporter states that at the time the aircraft landed in Bangkok the hijackers asked to establish contact with an Indonesian official. All communications are carried on in Indonesian. When the Garuda aircraft landed, precisely at 1600, the Indonesian ambassador to Thailand, Hasnan Habib, was already at Don Muang airport. The Indonesian Embassy in Bangkok, since 1100 had been monitoring the hijacking, including developments in Penang.

The Thai chief of police, the chief of staff of the Thai Air Force, the minister of communications, the chief of Thai intelligence, and a number of other military officers, were gathered together at Don Muang airport. Indonesian officials and Thai officials set up a command post in the KLM office (the Dutch-owned airline) on the second floor of the Don Muang terminal.

At 0618 on Sunday morning [29 March] the hijackers asked for food to be supplied at 0720, in accordance with their directions. The food and the person bringing it were to be in position 30 meters in front of the aircraft, and the hijackers could easily watch him from the cockpit. A Garuda employee from the Bangkok office, Subhaard (a Thai citizen), volunteered for the task. As soon as he arrived before the aircraft, he set the food down on the ground. Subhaard's upper clothing had to be open, and he was prohibited from carrying anything in his pockets, in accordance with the hijackers' instructions.

A British passenger named Robert Wainright (27 years old) is the manager of PT Micchem, which operates in Indonesia. Wainright jumped out of an emergency window on the right hand side of the aircraft. The window was very easy to open. By pulling the level inward and making no loud noise, he was able to escape when all of the hijackers were in the cockpit. This lack of attention was used for his escape. After he succeeded in getting out of the fuselage, he jumped onto the wing of the aircraft and then jumped 1.5 meters to the ground. He immediately ran to the after section of the aircraft to hide under it and then ran quickly to the edge of the airstrip. He was immediately seized [sic] by Thai air force military police.

The command post in the KLM office on the second floor of Don Muang airport was moved to the fourth floor in the operations office and called the "crisis center." The Indonesian officials who were directly handling the "crisis center" were the chief of BAKIN, Yoga Sugomo; the assistant for intelligence in the Ministry of Defense and Security, Lt Gen Benny Murdani; Director General of Air Communications Sugiri; and Ambassador Hasnan Habib.

Wainright, who succeeded in getting free, was immediately taken to the command post and interviewed by an Indonesian official and by high-ranking Thai officials. Also attending the interview were Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila, Minister of Communications Amorn Sirigaya, and Deputy Prime Minister Prachuap. Wainright said that the total number of hijackers was five and that they were between 20 and 40 years old. As he had observed, the hijackers had an FN pistol and carried three hand grenades and a knife. Wainright's statement contradicted a previous report which said that there were six hijackers. The hijackers were led by a man who had a small beard.

The treatment of the passengers by the hijackers was very crude. Wainright said that the hijackers also beat up an American passenger after he tried to go to the toilet. According to Wainright, there were still two Americans, two Japanese, and one Dutchman in the aircraft.

At 1600 on Sunday [29 March] the hijackers asked for additional fuel and oil. At the time the tanks were to be filled the temperature inside the aircraft was already very high, and the service door, on the right hand side forward but just aft of the pilot's seat, usually used to load catering supplies. [Sic; sentence is incomplete; presumably, the service door was open].

An Indonesian technician with Garuda, Supangat, at the request of the hijackers, was invited to supervise the filling of the tanks with fuel. "Supangat clearly saw the co-pilot of the DC-9, Juwantoro, standing in the door, with a hijacker behind him, pointing a pistol. Supangat and four Thai technicians had only been working on the refueling for a few minutes when suddenly an American passenger, Karl Schneider, burst through the service door and tried to jump out. When he started to jump, a hijacker fired his pistol, and Schneider was hit in both shoulders. Panic broke out. Supangat and the other Thai technicians immediately ran from the aircraft to the edge of the landing strip, where they lay flat. It was only 20 minutes later that a military ambulance came on to the landing strip and approached the aircraft. Schneider was picked up and was immediately given first aid at the Thai Air Force emergency hospital.

Assault on Plane

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 31 Mar 81 pp 1, 12

[Excerpts] Don Muang Airport, 31 March--A tense drama carried out also for humanitarian reasons saved 40 passengers and five crew members of the Garuda DC-9 which was hijacked by six terrorists. The action took place at Don Muang airport in Bangkok, early Tuesday morning [31 March] at 0245, in the most amazing fashion, according to a report of SINAR HARAPAN correspondents Panda Nababan and Suryohadi, who reported from the scene of the events on Tuesday morning.

The tense moments began about 2145 on Monday evening [31 March] at the "crisis center" at Don Muang airport, after brief and heart-stopping discussions with the hijackers. Meanwhile, there were already available to the "crisis center" 35 special anti-terrorists troops led by Lt Col Sintong Pandjaitan. The special anti-terrorist troops remained aboard the Garuda DC-10 which had brought them from Jakarta to Don Muang airport on Sunday [29 March].

At 2145 on Monday evening [30 March] the assistant for intelligence at the Ministry of Defense and Security, Lt Gen Benny Murdani, who directly led the operation to save the passengers and crew, left the "crisis center" at the Don Muang passenger terminal to supervise the rescue operation. Since 1900 all of the special anti-terrorist troops had been in position about 400 meters behind the plane, where it was dark and protected from view from the plane.

The 35 brave ABRI troopers had been in place and ready to attack, the time depending on the threat and the moment for the assault to be launched, whose timing was only known to the chief of BAKIN, Gen Yoga Sugama, and HANKAM assistant for intelligence, Lt Gen Benny Murdani.

As had been the case with the previous nights, for about 100 meters around the hijacked Garuda DC-9, the ground was brightly lit by Royal Thai Air Force lights. It seems that the experience of the hijackers on Sunday and Monday night, when their requests were never rejected, such as requests for food, fuel, and cleaning of the aircraft, etc., had made the terrorists feel secure and in a strong position. This circumstance made them careless and left them feeling "on top of things." It was this situation which was used by the ABRI troops to launch the rescue operation effectively and quickly.

The SINAR HARAPAN reporter who directly followed the rescue operation from up close saw body shapes emerge from the dark from a direction in a straight line with the tail of the aircraft. About 15 anti-terrorist troops, wearing camouflage uniforms and without berets, formed into a single line. They were followed by a second file of about 20 soldiers wearing dark clothing.

The first group was clearly seen to be moving in a slow, orderly fashion but with steady strides that convinced an observer that without any doubt they would move on to their objective, while carrying three ladders! One ladder was placed at the tail door of the aircraft, while the other two were respectively placed on the right and left wings. Things were tense, as they are on a stage. When the order to attack came, the 35 special anti-terrorist soldiers went into action in lightning fashion. The placing of the three ladders only took 7 minutes.

From the time the doors of the aircraft were successfully opened in the lightning operation at 0242, it took 3 minutes for the whole rescue operation and the freeing of the hostages to be completed. The operation went on in a fantastic and orderly way, in accordance with the scenario for the operation as it was planned.

At the same time as the five doors of the aircraft were successfully opened there was immediately heard a volley of shots which broke the silence of the night and only lasted for a few seconds. Between the noise of the individual shots it could be seen that the forward door of the aircraft was open, and at the same time, before the ladder fell, a body was thrown out of the door which, from its clothings, must have been that of one of the terrorists.

Although the shooting had stopped, the troops were increasingly active. Members of the special anti-terrorist squad were clearly seen climbing the ladder, with the passengers descending by the forward ladder. Although in fact the situation was fully in the control of the attacking troops, the passengers, who had spent almost 65 hours in a state of tension and threats of death, were still hurrying down the ladder.

Immediately after the rescue operation was completed, it was officially made public that the hijacking drama had ended. It had taken about 65 hours and cost the lives of three terrorists who were shot and one passenger (a child 4 years of age). In addition, the pilot, Captain Herman Rante, and a member of the special squad were wounded.

However, a short time afterward the announcement was corrected. The child, Abidin, had not died, and had not even been wounded, although his whole head was covered with blood. A terrorist who had been wounded later died at the scene of the action.

Before the rescue operation began, communications between the negotiator, the chief of BAKIN, Yoga Sugama, as representative of the Indonesian government at the "crisis center," with the hijackers, which had gone on Monday evening, ended at 0115. After the hijacker received the list of the names of the 84 people they demanded, the hijackers then asked that a man named Salman be added to the list of 84. A person representing the hijackers said, "And ask Salman whether there are more names which Salman wants to add to be flown abroad."

The hijacker also demanded that the next contact take place at 0630 on Tuesday morning [31 March]. In the final contact the hijacker no longer mentioned the sending of \$1.5 million. Perhaps this was because the hijackers were busy examining the total number and the names of the people whom they wanted to be flown abroad. "It will be tomorrow morning at 0630 [31 March] before we decide when the 84 people and additional persons will be flown out," said a hijacker over the radio. After that, radio communications were broken off.

Troops Practiced Assault

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 31 Mar 81 pp 1, 12

[Excerpts] Immediately after Minister of Defense and Security Gen M Jusuf received a report on the success of the operation to rescue Garuda passengers, which was carried out by ABRI soldiers commanded by Lt Col Sintong Panjaitan, this important matter was immediately made known to all those attending the ABRI 1981 exercise in the VIP room at Pattimura airfield in Ambon.

From available information it appears that the commander of the assault troops planned that the attack would take 8 and one-half minutes, but it turned out that the entire operation was successfully completed in only 3 minutes.

The first comment from the minister of defense and security on the success of the special anti-terrorist troops was: "It is clear that our boys were able to handle this very dangerous matter in a relatively short time, 3 minutes. This is an achievement which is very impressive, compared with the same kind of rescue efforts against terrorists in other countries."

The "raid" against the hijackers early on Tuesday morning [31 March] was carried out by 32 members of the special anti-terrorist squad, led by a middle grade officer. Among the 32 soldiers was a doctor. The attack only took about 3 minutes.

The soldiers had gone through special training for raids of this kind and for anti-terrorism operations. Before they departed for Bangkok on Sunday [29 March] in a Garuda DC-10, they had again gone through intensive exercises on attacking an aircraft, lasting several hours.

Troops Return

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 31 Mar 81 pp 1, 12

[Excerpts] At 0802 Jakarta time Tuesday morning [31 March] the commando troops which brilliantly completed the rescue operation of the Garuda aircraft and its passengers who were held as hostages at Don Muang airport in Bangkok, safely arrived at Halim Perdana Kusuma Air Base.

Lines of ABRI military police were on guard to see that reporters, who were filling Halim Perdana Kusuma Air Base, did not go out on the airstrip. In addition, the commando troops were "quarantined" and not permitted to speak to reporters.

Lt Col Pieter Sitompul, an officer who followed the planning and execution of the operation at Don Muang airport, told SINAR HARAPAN that preparations for the operation were undertaken immediately after the hijacking took place. "Therefore, it was not too long afterward," he said, in explanation.

He said that the operation carried out by the commando troops, although a short one, was prepared in a careful way. "We can learn from the book, and other people can learn the tasks involved in operations to wipe outhijacking," he said. Lt Col Sitompul was not prepared to state whether the rescue operation to free the passengers of the hijacked Garuda aircraft was inspired by the Israeli troops at Entebbe a few years ago.

Lt Col Sintong Panjaitan, the officer who led the troops in the attack on the aircraft at Don Muang airport, was not prepared to discuss in detail the successful operation. "Yeah, things went off normally," he said by way of comment, when asked by SINAR HARAPAN for his impressions when he was leading his troops.

Identity of Hijackers

Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 4 Apr 81 pp 17, 18

[Text] Who carried out the hijacking? Until Monday night [30 March] there had been no official statement. The first official statement was given by the assistant for intelligence at the Ministry of Defense and Security, Lt Gen Benny Moerdani, Saturday afternoon [28 March] in Ambon. It merely said that the hijackers were five unknown persons who knew each other, all of whom spoke Indonesian.

However, it appears that our security apparatus moved quickly. On Saturday [28 March] the Hotel Lusyana, located at the corner of the intersection of Jalan Letkol Iskandar and Jalan Sudirman, in Palembang, was visited by a security officer. Three employees of the hotel were interrogated. The owner of the hotel, Husein bin Asari, was also interrogated. Room 14 at the hotel was later sealed by the authorities.

The former occupants of room number 14, which cost Rp 4,000 per night, were strongly believed to be the hijackers of the Garuda aircraft, "Woyla." The four friends there were joined by a person who previously had been in Palembang, registered as coming from and staying at the same hotel on 26 March. A railway ticket stub was found in their room, and it was deduced that they had come to Palembang by land. "A few words were also found on the wall of the room, including writing which expressed the view: kill or be killed," said an official.

The friends left the Hotel Lusyana on 28 March at 0600. It is believed that loose security supervision at Talangbetutu airport in Palembang made it possible for the five hijackers to board the aircraft carrying firearms and a sharp weapon.

It is a matter of record that there were 14 passengers from Palembang who on 28 March boarded the Garuda DC-9 aircraft with the registration number GA 206. Six of them who are believed to be the hijackers are listed under the following names: Wemby, Sofyan, Machrizal, Zulfikar, Masri, and Machyuddin. It is Machrizal, a young man who is believed to have come from Saudi Arabia, who is the leader of the group. Meanwhile, Zulfikar, according to an informed source, once worked as a security officer at the Hotel Hilton in Jakarta.

Not only in Palembang were the security officials effective in their investigations. In Jakarta on Saturday evening [28 March] security officers searched a house on Jalan Bogor Lama, in the Pasar Manggis district, located in the Pasar Rumput area. It is reported that they detained two young men.

At various other places security sweeps were also undertaken. For example, at Duripolo district, West Jakarta, beginning on Sunday [29 March]. "They are looking for Ali Yusuf. I don't know why," said Mansyur, Ali's eldest brother. According to Mansyur, his younger brother had left home several months ago. In his own family Ali, 28 years old, is known as a stubborn young man who has often been in conflict with his family, particularly regarding religious questions. "I have heard that Ali was associated with a man named Imran," said Mansyur.

Who is Imran? Is it true that his followers are involved in the hijacking of the Garuda aircraft? Imran bin Muhammad Zein, known to his followers as "Imam," began to be known widely after the Istiqamah Mosque affair in 1980. The so-called "Istiqamah Affair" occurred on 4 August 1980. On that day at Istiqamah Mosque, which is the favorite mosque for the young people of Bandung, there was a fight. The program for that day of "training of religious officials" changed into ridicule of the senior religious officials [ulama] and the government. Fearing that a fight would develop, a security officer present at the mosque reported to the Military District Command at Cibeunying.

An Army garrison detachment from Cimahi in Bandung and the local police immediately came to the scene. As a result, 44 young men were picked up and held overnight. A few people who said they belonged to the Istiqamah youth group later came to the home of H M Rusyad Nurdin, chairman of the Istiqamah Mosque Foundation. They denounced the detention of their comrades as unjust.

It turned out that they also went to the home of the chairman of the Council of Ulama of the city of Bandung, Yunus Nataatmaja, and the home of the chairman of the West Java Council of Ulama, K H E Z Mutaqqien. They also went to the home of Mohammad Natsir in Jakarta with the same demand: free their comrades.

At Istiqamah Mosque they were only a few in number--about 25 to 30 people--but they were in control of the office of the Istiqamah Mosque youth organization. For that reason the mosque council dissolved the organization. The total number of "members of this doctrinal group" was estimated at 500, with about 150 of them from Bandung and Cimahi.

Those who entered their group had to show a firm intent and change or add to their names the name of one of the adherents of the prophet Mohammad. The expression of this firm intent was made to Imran, who was regarded as their Imam.

The West Java Council of Ulama a few months ago had reported the activity of a group which it regarded as "rather strange." It made this report to the government and added to it six cassette recordings of speeches of Imran. They were also forbidden to carry out their activities at Istiqamah Mosque.

However, it turned out that their activity did not stop. About two months later the group was reported involved in a stabbing attack on Dr Syamsuddin, one of the directors of the mosque. As a result 11 members of the group were arrested by the West Java Special Branch office. The group was also stated to be involved in the attack on Cicendo police post in Bandung, in which three policemen were killed. It is reported that the group had destroyed a house of prostitution in Bandung.

A high ranking official confirmed that it is the Imran group which hijacked the Garuda DC-9 aircraft "Woyla" last week. "Their purpose is to escape abroad, together with their friends," he said. It was because of that consideration that they demanded the freeing of a number of prisoners, some of whom were their friends. This group, the same source said, had chosen the path of radical and revolutionary force.

Can this group be called extremist? In an interview with TEMPO last year, after the "Istiqamah Affair," Imran did not reject this view. "If they say we are extremists, let them," he said. "Because we are still weak, we are regarded as troublemakers and extremists. But if we are strong, big, numerous and disciplined, will there be anyone who will dare to say that we are extremists?"

"What is clear is that we are firm in our views and don't want to fool around. For example, if the prophet Mohammad said that alcoholic drinks or pork are prohibited, even though we would be shot, we would say that these are prohibited," he said.

Imran bin Muhammad Zein, 31 years old, was born in Bukittinggi as the eldest of 10 brothers and sisters. Open in manner, with light brown skin, he is a young man who is engaged in the watch business and speaks calmly and clearly. He admits that between 1971 and 1976 he was in Saudi Arabia, studying religion with religious teachers there. "I didn't study in a systematic way, like in a university. For me the important thing was the matter of religion itself, and not the way to learn it," he said.

Imran stated that he only believed in the Koran and the Muslim traditions [Hadith]. "I want religion to be in its original form. I do not like to see religion politicized. Whatever the form of the state, the Islamic religion should control

it," he said. "Because of that I have not been in agreement with the old-style leadership. For if the old-style leaders were sincere in carrying out the teachings of our religion, it would be impossible for us to be faced with a situation like the present one."

He referred to his relations with the youth group at the Istiqamah mosque as a normal matter. Since 1978 he had been in touch with them as an ordinary preacher. Was it true that in that group there was a kind of devotion to the leadership? He answered, "I think this way. We joined together, having the same beliefs. Then we took an oath that we would truly remain within the Islamic faith, even if we should have to sacrifice ourselves: for Islam." He also admitted that he felt a bit strange to be called a "government man" and was startled to have his name mentioned as the leader of the Istiqamah youth group.

A conviction of Imran's is that, "humanity will return to its religious practices." "If a man is a Muslim, he will return as a Muslim. If he is put under pressure and provoked, a time will come when he will defend himself. And in the course of this self-defense, the consequences can be.... We all know," he said with a voice full of spirit, last August. And now, eight months later, is it true that we all know?



Imran Bin Muhammad Zein

5170

CSO: 4213/59

INDONESIA

GENERALS COMMENT ON NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH PRC

Not in 1981

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 11 Mar 81 p 1

[Excerpts] Indonesia is not thinking of normalizing its diplomatic relations with the PRC in 1981. Indonesia is in no hurry to do this, but it is important that all matters involving these relations be noted and itemized so that political and other fields are well protected when relations are normalized.

M. Panggabean, minister coordinator for political security and foreign minister ad interim, gave this response to newsmen's queries after he had been received by President Suharto at the Istana Merdeka on Tuesday (10 March).

The minister coordinator said it is important to study past experience and the experience of other nations in normalizing relations with the PRC, "since the PRC has said it would cooperate with a neighboring country but not with its Communist Party."

He admitted that a certain group feels that business perhaps would be promoted if relations were normalized with the PRC. However, we cannot view this matter from one aspect solely but must view it from all aspects. "Therefore, the government is obliged to investigate all aspects, say the G-30-S/PKI [30 September Movement/Indonesian Communist Party] remnants, the status of foreign-born citizens, and other matters," the minister said.

Sooner or Later

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 4 Mar 81 pp 1, 12

[Text] Gen TNI [Indonesian National Army] M. Yusuf, minister of defense and security concurrently Armed Forces commander, told Japan's Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ito that Japan could obtain more assistance in settling the Kampuchea problem by offering more aid to ASEAN [Association of Asian Nations] countries than it does to Vietnam.

In a 30-minute meeting at the Seoul Hotel, South Korea, on Tuesday (3 March) the two ministers discussed the situation in Asia, particularly the Kampuchea problem and Indonesia's relations with the PRC, according to Japanese officials as reported by the Kyodo news service.

The officials said Foreign Minister Ito further clarified Japan's support for holding an international conference to discuss the Kampuchea problem.

Gen Jusuf told Ito that ASEAN nations held high expectations for the Japanese role in carrying out the UN resolution.

According to the Japanese officials, Gen Jusuf told Ito that one way to settle the Kampuchean problem was for Japan to furnish more aid to ASEAN countries than it did to Vietnam.

The Japanese foreign minister asked Gen Jusuf about the possibility of restoring relations with the PRC and said relations between the PRC and ASEAN member nations were needed for peace and stability in the region.

Minister Jusuf replied, "This matter will be settled sooner or later," but added no further information, the Japanese officials said.

The two ministers are in Seoul to attend the inauguration of South Korea's president Chon Tu-hwan.

6804

CSO: 4213/54

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON INDONESIAN PERSONALITIES

[Unless otherwise noted, the following information on Indonesian personalities has been extracted from Indonesian language sources published in Jakarta.]

COL SARWONO--On Thursday [12 March] Col Sarwono (Corps of Engineers) was installed in office as the new chief of staff of Military Region VII/Diponegoro, replacing the former incumbent, Brig Gen Sawarno. The change of office ceremony took place in Semarang at the Sasana Yudha offices of Military Region VII/Diponegoro, in the presence of Maj Gen Ismail, commander of Military Region VII. [Excerpts] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 16 Mar 81 p 2]

AMBASSADOR A KOHIR SASTRADIPURA--The Italian government has given its agreement to the appointment of A Kohir Sastradipura as Indonesian ambassador to Italy, replacing R Sri Soebiyakto. Ambassador Kohir was born in Ciamis on 2 May 1929 and obtained his senior high school certificate at the Foreign Service Academy. He obtained an M A degree from Columbia University in the United States and attended the first Senior Foreign Affairs course. He entered the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1955. In 1970 he was appointed counsellor at the Indonesian Permanent Delegation to the UN in New York. In 1971 he was transferred to the Indonesian Embassy in Tokyo and in 1972 he was appointed minister counsellor at that post. In 1976 he became Indonesian Minister in Tokyo. In 1977 he returned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as an inspector for the general program and for the Development Project in the Inspectorate General of the ministry. Later in 1977 he became chief of the Bureau of Personnel Affairs in the ministry and finally, before being appointed ambassador to Italy, he was deputy chief of mission at the Indonesian Embassy in London. [Text] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 20 Mar 81 p 1]

COL E KUSNANDAR--The post of deputy commanding general of the Navy Training Command was recently transferred from Commodore Dick Isnayoto to his replacement, Col (T) E Kusnandar, at a military ceremony attended by commanders of the Training Center and military and civilian employees of the Navy Training Command. Commodore Dick Isnayoto had served as deputy commanding general of the Navy Training Command for one year and will be assigned to new duties at Navy Headquarters in Jakarta. Col (T) E Kusnandar previously was deputy assistant to the chief of staff of the Navy for planning and budget. [Excerpt] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 21 Mar 81 p 10]

AIR COMMODORE SURYONO HARDJOSUBROTO--Air Commodore Suryono Hardjosubroto, a member of parliament in the ABRI fraction, on Tuesday [wr March] died at the Jakarta branch of "Saryanto" hospital, aged 55. The remains of the deceased lay in state at the

family residence, Jalan Iskandarsyah 1/22 B, Kebayoran Baru, South Jakarta. The deceased was born in Banjarnegara on 12 December 1926. Before becoming a member of parliament he was deputy for administration in the office of the commanding general of AKABRI. The deceased had been a member of parliament since 1977. [Excerpt] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 25 Mar 81 p 2]

PROF A MADJID IBRAHIM--The governor of the Special Area of Aceh, Prof A Madjid Ibrahim (54 years old) died on Sunday [15 March] at Husada Hospital in Jakarta, after being ill since 24 February. The remains of the deceased will be buried at Seulimum, about 40 kilometers from Banda Aceh, on Tuesday [17 March]. Prof A Madjid Ibrahim was born in Seulimum, Aceh Besar, on 19 November 1926. During his life he was active in the field of education and held several important posts in the government. His career in the service of society began in 1945, when he became editor of the magazine API MERDEKA, which was published in Yogyakarta. He also became a member of the Student Army in East Java. Around 1953 he was chosen to be a member of the Executive Board of the HMI [Indonesian University Students Union]. After graduating from the Faculty of Economics at the University of Indonesia in 1957 he was appointed a permanent instructor at that faculty. Until 1963 he taught at a number of other universities. In 1963 he returned to Banda Aceh and became dean of the Faculty of Economics at the University of Syiah Kuala. In 1965 he was appointed rector of the University of Syiah Kuala. In 1973 he was appointed deputy chairman of the National Planning Board [BAPPENAS] for regional affairs. On 27 July 1978 he was installed in office as governor of Aceh. The deceased leaves his wife, Mrs Rohani, four sons, and one daughter. The eldest is in second year in junior high school, while the youngest child, a girl, is still attending kindergarten. [Excerpts] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 16 Mar 81 pp 1, 12]

COL. MOKHTAR HARAHAP--The inspector general of the Ministry of Trade and Cooperatives Col Mokhtar Harahap (Judge Advocate General's Corp), 52 years old, on Friday [20 March] at 0740 died at St Luke's Hospital in Houston, Texas, after undergoing a heart operation. The remains of the deceased will be returned to Indonesia and buried on Monday [23 March]. Mokhtar Harahap became inspector general of the Ministry of Trade and Cooperatives on 8 July 1978. Previously, he had been a member of the MPR for Jakarta and Bandung from 1977 to 1979. He had also been a judge [Oditor Militer Tinggi] in the High Military Court in Bandung from 1972 to 1978. Mokhtar Harahap leaves a wife and four children (two sons and two daughters). [Text] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 21 Mar 81 p 12]

SOEMARSO SOEMARSONO--Soemarso Soemarsono, former editor of ABADI, on Friday [20 March] died at the Islamic Hospital in Jakarta after being ill for some time. His remains were buried at Menteng Pulo on Friday. Soemarsono, who died at 53, left a wife and four children, three of whom were sons and one daughter. Since he was a young man the deceased had been active in several Islamic organizations and had been a member of the Students' Army during the independence war. He became a journalist in 1952, beginning at PEWARTA SURABAYA and later became editor of HALUAN RAKJAT, also in Surabaya, in 1955. In 1959 Soemarsono moved to Jakarta, where he was deputy editor of ABADI until the newspaper closed down due to pressure from the "Old Order" [of President Sukarno]. When the newspaper was authorized to be published again in 1966, the deceased became its editor until the newspaper was prohibited from publishing in 1974. The deceased was born in Magetan on 19 August 1928. He wrote a book entitled, "Pengalaman Dalam Tiga Penjara" [Experiences in Three Jails], which

contained his notes on his experiences in going in and out of jail during his life. During the period of the "Old Order" he was jailed in 1963 and released in 1966. He was later jailed in connection with the 20 March 1978 affair. Until the end of his life the deceased was under open arrest, confined to Jakarta. At a memorial service on Saturday [21 March] those attending included Dr Anwar Harjono, Mohammed Roem, and Chudori, the latter representing the Central Executive Board of the Indonesian Journalists' Association [PWI]. They spoke of the courage of the deceased during his life, heedless of risk. The deceased was a fighter who underwent considerable suffering and self-sacrifice, these leaders stated. [Text] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 22 Mar 81 pp 1, 12]

IRAWAN DARSAH--Irawan Darsah, who is presently director of Multilateral Economic Cooperation Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has been designated ambassador and permanent Indonesian representative at the UN office in Geneva, replacing Atmono Suryo. Irawan Darsah (50 years old) is a career diplomat. He began his career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1955. He has served as third secretary at the Indonesian Embassy in Brussels, as second secretary at the Indonesian Embassy in Berne, as first secretary and then counsellor at the Indonesian mission at the UN office in Geneva. Later he was minister counsellor and then minister at the Indonesian permanent mission at UN headquarters in New York. He holds an M A degree in international law from New York University. According to available information Ambassador Atmono Suryo will be assigned to new duties as general secretary of the National Secretariat of ASEAN, replacing Umaryadi Nyotowiyono.

AIR COMMODORE SURYONO HARDJOSUBROTO--The remains of the late Air Commodore Suryono Hardjosubroto, a member of Committee I of parliament, on Wednesday [25 March] were buried at Kalibata cemetery, after having lain in state in the parliament building. The deceased died on Tuesday [24 March] at "Saryanto" hospital, East Jakarta branch, at age 55. He was born in Banjarnegara (Central Java) on 12 December 1926. He became a member of parliament as a representative of Golkar in 1977. During his life the deceased was very active in military affairs, since becoming a member of the Student Engineers Army in 1945 and until he entered parliament in 1977. He was an engineering specialist during his life. He underwent training in Great Britain (1954-1955) to study maintenance of jet aircraft. In 1958 he went through further training in Czechoslovakia in the form of a conversion course in MIG and IL-28 aircraft. He later attended a course in "overhaul" management of jets in Poland (1960). During the 3 years he was a member of parliament he was a member of Committee X (Technical Research) and then moved to Committee I (Defense and Security, Foreign Affairs, and Information). The deceased leaves a wife and four children (one of them a son and three of them daughters). [Excerpt] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 26 Mar 81 p 9]

3170

CSO: 4213/58

PERTAMINA DEBT REPAYMENT DISCUSSED

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 13 Mar 81 p 2

[Article: "Pertamina is Still Repaying Its Debts"]

[Text] Pertamina has been working hard to repay its debts up to the present time. An agreement is expected to be made with the government in this next year for a complete settlement of its debts.

Drs Dicky J. Turner, chairman of the Treasury Subdirector of the Pertamina Directorate of Finance presented this information in Jakarta on Thursday (12 March).

Drs Dicky, a former official of the Department of Finance, is now working in Pertamina and concurrently holds the position of special assistant to the Pertamina director. He said Pertamina's debts have been divided into three parts.

The first part covers Pertamina's debt to the Bank Indonesia; the second, its debt to the government, and finally the money owed to a third party.

Pertamina at this time owes the Bank Indonesia a total of about 1.3 trillion rupiah, including 500 billion rupiah in interest while 800 billion rupiah represents the basic debt. The debt includes funds used for Pertamina project development such as the liquified natural gas project, the Cilacap refinery, the pipeline project, and other projects. Some of this debt has been repaid but about 1.3 trillion rupiah are still owed.

Of the amount owed the government since 1974, an estimated 484 billion rupiah have been repaid as of the end of January 1981. Included in this total is the repayment of about \$999 million to the Department of Finance which was settled by turning over certain Pertamina assets to the government, such as airfields and buildings.

Drs Dicky did not say how much of the Pertamina debt has been repaid to the third party. However, he said as of 1980 Pertamina had repaid \$452 million to banks while another \$192 million were deposited through the Bank Indonesia.

These three types of debt cover all the money owed by Pertamina including debts incurred by affiliates of this company.

Drs Dicky said Pertamina debt to the third party is less significant than the money owed the government or the Bank Indonesia. A long-term loan must also be repaid. In the interest of repaying these debts as quickly as possible, Pertamina has repaid a portion of this loan although it does not come due until 1984. The longest loan period is that for the third party loan which runs until 1986.

Questioned about the 1980/81 budget, Drs Dicky replied, the company's operations budget for that fiscal year was \$8.1 billion as submitted to the Government Commissioners Council for approval. However, the expenditure budget was estimated at about \$7 billion; therefore, there is a surplus of about \$1.1 billion. These surplus funds, in addition to being used to finance the investment program, will be used to help repay the remaining indebtedness.

In regard to investments, Drs Dicky said many new projects were still being discussed with the government including the Cilacap refinery, the Balikpapan hydro-cracking plant in Dumai as well as the methanol projects in Bunyu and Balikpapan. "Pertamina's current financial policy is limited to investments with the lowest risk," he added.

6804

CSO: 4213/54

AVAILABILITY OF PUBLIC HOUSING DISCUSSED, IMPROVEMENTS NECESSARY

Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 25 Apr 81 pp 61-66

[Article: "Housing for Wahyudi and Teacher Sitorus"]

[Text] A bajaj and pedicab driver is confounded by the electric lights in his new home. Further he is becoming accustomed to living in a flat. The first flats are to be inaugurated by President Suharto this week. But what has been done to date by the government to meet housing needs?

He is a bajaj driver. It had never crossed his mind that he would ever live in a sub-basic house with sturdy walls in a healthy environment in the capital city.

But luck, of course, brings surprises. Wahyudi, 44 years old, born in Pekalongan, moved into his new home at sundown on 1 February several days before the Klender sub-basic complex was inaugurated.

Happily, an elder of the citizen's association in Karet Tenessin, South Jakarta, was the first key to this lucky period. One day he forwarded a housing registration form to Wahyudi. The form was filled out immediately but thereafter the bajaj driver thought no more about it because he knows PERUMNAS [National Housing Corporation] housing was only slated for government workers and ABRI [Indonesian Armed Forces] personnel. That in the end he would be allotted one, that was too much!

Wahyudi was astonished, happy but nervous. Moreover, even now when he speaks of his good fortune, he does so meditatively. "Someone actually did show some interest in me," he mutters.

One can say this has been the experience of almost all of the occupants of sub-basic housing. No one could believe that out of the thousands of houses built by PERUMNAS, a house could be made available for the likes of persons such as they--pedicab drivers, broom sellers, bus drivers, taxi drivers, miscreants.

Such an attitude is understandable, of course, because 75,842 houses have been built in 17 cities in Indonesia since PERUMNAS was established in 1974. However, initially all were purchased by ABRI personnel, Grade I and II government workers, or middle class private individuals. It was only later that poorer people such as Wahyudi were able to purchase these houses.

During PELITA II [second 5-year development plan] the government began to build public housing on a large scale but the results were not readily apparent because not enough houses were built to accommodate the number of persons who needed them, especially in urban areas, and also because the houses that were built were restricted to basic houses (with a minimum floor space of 20 square meters) and simple houses (with a minimum floor space of 36 square meters).

The reach was extended for PELITA III. For instance, 150,000 houses (twice the number built during PELITA II) were planned to be built in the 1979-84 period in 77 cities in Indonesia.

Also housing has become more varied since four-storied walk-up flats and small, sub-basic houses (maximum floor space of 15 square meters) were introduced. The first walk-up flats in Tanah Abang, Jakarta, were inaugurated by President Suharto on Tuesday of this week [21 April]--a symbol of the government's attention to the problem of resettling the lower classes.

The first sub-basic housing was the pilot project in PERUMNAS II Mandala, Medan--occupied since early 1980. Here 401 sub-basic units were built, categorized as 72 units of type D-15, 181 units of type D-12, 148 units of type D-9. A sub-basic complex for Jakarta was built in Klender consisting of 190 units while in Surabaya 318 units were built which will be occupied at the end of this year.

Although the sub-basic house seems very small with its cinder block walls, asbestos [tile] ceilings, and cement floors, occupants view them as far better than their former homes. The average people lived in houses that did not meet sanitary requirements. For the most part, they had no electricity nor was a WC always available and if it was, it was used by several families. Further, the rooms had no windows, the walls were made of woven bamboo, and the floor was hardened earth. Not to mention the arguments with the neighbors.

The situation is different in the new housing, moreover, from what can be observed in Mandala II, Medan, it is far different now that it was when the first occupant moved in. The sub-basic houses were changed to meet the needs and capabilities of each occupant. Pedicab drivers gave priority to building garages for their pedicabs. Some added kitchens first.

Muhammad Nurdin, 49 years old, a pedicab driver, has added a bedroom, a living room, and a kitchen. With a wife and six children, of course, they could not be crowded for long in a 9 square-meter-room.

To make their surroundings more pleasant, the Nurdin family painted their fence and planted flowers, cassava, and corn in the yard. Their cleared land--not extensive, of course, only 60 square meters--is very well taken care of and is attractive.

In the Mandala II complex the day begins about 8 am with clean pedicabs ready and waiting in the yard. Several bare chested men are standing there erect and challenging the sun's rays. Young girls come out of the house to discard the garbage in a bin at the edge of the street. Meanwhile Malay songs float out from several houses--and music in the Hong Kong rhythm is also heard. Children leave for school on a public bus at 7 am.

About mid-day, it is rather quiet, but toward evening those who have a TV gather around their sets. It is hard to gain a livelihood, a mouthful in the morning and a mouthful in the afternoon, but this doesn't prevent the people from enjoying a new peaceful life in the sub-basic housing environment.

Also there is a very noticable feeling of solidarity among the occupants. If someone adds on to his house, neighbors on both sides help and, moreover, they have formed a group called the Mutual Aid Society (STM) which, among other things, is responsible for local security. The occupants rotate on evening patrols. The lane chief, although located in a different place, functions like the chief of the neighborhood or citizen's association and rarely has come in to handle problems arising among the inhabitants of the lane. "We can settle them ourselves," Nurdin remarked confidently.

Nevertheless, there are some limitations here and there. Eng Budi Prabowo, 36 years old, chairman of the Medan PERUMNAS project, is very dissatisfied with this inadequate garbage collection and environmental sanitation, responsibility for which rests with the contractor. Further some occupants are sloppy; garbage is thrown about anywhere. Complaints are also heard that potable water supplied by PAM [Potable Water Company] is limited and has even been turned off completely. Nurdin and his neighbor, Mochtar, were forced to dig a well--meanwhile the bill of PAM water keeps coming.

In the Klender complex in Jakarta, the PAM water supply initially operated smoothly but several days later it became irregular. Wahyudi and his neighbors, in a self-help way, set up a pump. Ten persons paid the 55,000 rupiah cost. But as soon as the pump began working, the expensive water supplied by PAM suddenly flowed again except there was not enough pressure to fill a bathtub.

One complaint has not yet been heard. For shopping, wives do not have to go far. There is a market in the middle of the complex. Children also go to the available elementary school, two junior high schools and one senior high school. These were ready when the families moved in. There is a People's Health Center and a few general practitioners have opened offices in the complex.

Since the sub-basic houses in Klender have been occupied for only 2 months, no significant changes have been made in them. At present Wahyudi only plans to save so that he can make his house more attractive later. He is still unable to build a fence, much less add a room. A belimbing [Averrhoa belimbi] tree grows in his yard--a "gift from Mother Tjokro"--meaning Mrs Tjokropranolo, the wife of the governor who assisted in making the area green.

A neighbor, Ahmad Sobirin, 41 years old, an employee of the Special Capital Region Sanitation Service, has just finished building a fence, installing a roof over the outdoor bathroom and is busy building an additional room. He knows his monthly income is insufficient to buy food let alone pay for his monthly instalment, electricity bill, and monthly security fee. Therefore, Sobirin, who has a wife and one child, sells cigarettes in front of his house and at the Taman Mini [mini-garden] on his day off.

Since the sub-basic house in Klender covers only 15 square meters, crowding is inevitable. At first glance from the outside, the houses look like "mini" garden houses emerging from a growth of trees but filled with children. They sit around or race their bicycles through the lanes which are kept neatly. There are volleyball fields to the south. In back of the houses wet ricefields spread out filled with yellowing paddy. The Pondok Kelapa housing is also visible and is clearly more attractive than the PERUMNAS housing.

The occupants of the sub-basic housing project do not need to envy the people in the Pondok Kelapa housing which was built by a real estate company for wealthy people. Wahyudi, for instance, is happy when he presses the button on the wall and the electric bulb lights, which is hard to understand. "You don't have to use a match to light the lamp," he remarks simply.

In this respect, the man with two children acts like a child in the Medan sub-basic housing complex. Eng Budi Prabowa tells about the children, who several days after they moved in, kept turning the lights on and off. They enjoyed seeing them light up and go out--this moved Budi Prabowo.

However, what Nurdin said is more to the point. "This PERUMNAS house makes me happy," he remarked slowly. "Till now I didn't even think about owning a house. Earlier I rented one room for 15,000 rupiah a month and could have kept on paying rent without ever owning the house. Now I look toward becoming the owner of a PERUMNAS house on the instalment plan."

The rising expectations of these people--as pointed out by Eng Soenaryono Danoedjo, executive director of PERUMNAS--makes even these occupants without any regular income zealous in keeping up their monthly payments. They couldn't be more grateful

However, both sub-basic houses and walk-up flats in Tanah Abang are something new greeted with joy--plus an irritation. Not only to those living there--who are higher on the social scale than Nurdin--but also to the people who live around the housing area. The project was built on 4 hectares of land that formerly was a cemetery. Now there are 60 blocs of apartments soaring upward.

Those who live around the project, in the words of a neighbor, are reminded of Taman Ria when they look at the groups of flats, possibly because they see lovely park lights, neatly kept trees, grass growing as well as inviting park benches. The children in particular throng there. They play ball or fly kites there and roasted peanuts are sold there. The project children mingle with children of the surrounding area who roller skate and ride minibikes there.

In the early morning people from the surrounding area walk through these well-ordered areas inhaling the fresh air.

These flats can hold 960 families. Earlier 2,853 indicated they were interested but 1,967 completed and returned the application. Of the total number of families the project can support, 128 were approved during the first phase--as of last week only 30 families had moved in.

What is their impression of the flats?

Mrs Eman and Mrs Sitorus, who live on the fourth floor, say the water pressure is intermittent. Mrs Alex Miraza on the first floor of complex A (built by PT Pembangunan Jaya) has been able to use her gas stove while Mrs Eman in complex B (built by PT Wijaya Karya) is forced to use an oil stove because the gas is not hooked up to the kitchen.

PAM's water pressure was believed to be enough to get water to the top floor because every bloc has its own underground reservoir and two water tanks on the roof. There are no bath tubs because it was felt a "shower"--a shower bath--would be sufficient.

However occupants may install a bath tub. This, among other things, was done by the new occupants soon after moving in. Alex Miraza, for instance, did not wait a long time. He immediately painted, installed an etermit, and even bought new furniture. Eman Siswanto covered the floor of his living room with a green carpet and arranged a cupboard so that it divided the room. This had to be done to break up the open space.

The stairs apparently are a problem for many residents. Mrs Eman (who lives on the fourth floor) admitted that her four children happily run up and down the stairs but she gets very tired. To keep up her strength, she plans to shop once every 3 days. However, in order to be able to do this, one of her first steps will be to buy a refrigerator. A new problem arises as to whether the 450 VA available for each unit will be enough to run the refrigerator.

Mrs Sitorus, a 44 year old teacher, clearly cannot be stopped because of the stairs. She is tired every day but is cheered by the fact that there are two sets of stairs in her bloc (B) while bloc A has only one. "I can vary the climb," she remarks exhaling cigarette smoke.

Most occupants feel at peace in the flats. The concrete walls are thick enough to keep out the sounds of other people's voices. The sun shines through the windows into every room, but rain also comes in freely. To keep it out, PERUMNAS will install awnings on each window.

In addition to being sprayed by the rain, Mrs Eman had a minibike stolen one day. One of her children left the bike down below and someone took it immediately.

How can guests be accommodated in a unit that measures 6 x 6 meters and has only two small bedrooms? "I believe I could accommodate a family with two or three children, but for 2 or 3 days only. If they stayed longer, that would create other problems," remarked Miraza carefully. Other occupants feel the same way.

Apparently it is not always true that transportation to one's job is facilitated by living in a walk-up flat. It's still the same problem for Eman Siswanto. He takes two buses and now adds another ride on a bemo to get to his office in Kemayoran. Sukardi feels he must travel further, and Mrs Sitorus must travel almost the same distance she did before moving. Miraza, of course, is much closer to his office.

But all this is not too bad. What people are really wracking their brains about is where to dry clothes for which few preparations have been made. "The biggest problem is where to dry sheets," Sitorus, the teacher with 22 years experience, remarked.

Actually both the sub-basic housing and the walk-up flats need improvements. The difference lies in the degree of improvements that must be made. In the flats with a floor space of 36 square meters almost nothing needs to be added except room dividers and a bath tub. But Wahyudi, Nurdin, and Sobin must sweat to improve the sub-basic housing with a floor space of 9, 12, or 15 square meters.

Nevertheless sub-basic housing can be equated to simple housing with a floor space of 36 square meters on 60 square meters of land. This is the minimum standard for low-cost housing, meaning housing subsidized by the government.

Because it is calculated that more than 50 percent of urban residents are unable to buy a simple house (their average monthly income is 30,000 rupiah and under), housing experts in both the Department of Public Works and in PERUMNAS concluded that sub-basic housing (with floor spaces of 9, 12, 15, 20, 21, and up to 33 square meters) should be built. This is still far below the minimum standard of 45 or 50 square meters for this type of housing in advanced nations.

Taking into account the ability to pay of those owning sub-basic housing, occupants in Medan must pay a daily installment of 180 rupiah. In Jakarta the instalment is 270 rupiah per day. Some of the occupants may feel overburdened, "but isn't it hard to find a house like this?" Sobirin said staunchly.

Soenaryono, executive director of PERUMNAS, admits that housing built by PERUMNAS, in many respects, is not free from defects. In Cirebon, for instance, such housing is flooded and many walls are cracked. In Depok some houses have no potable water supply and the same is true for some housing in Medan. In Surabaya housing allocation has not been very orderly.

On the other hand, he also feels some things should not be demanded of PERUMNAS, for instance, repeated demands for housing for two or three wives (this actually has happened), demands for more space but unwillingness to pay the extra cost, the purchase of land with the hope that PERUMNAS housing will be built on it in the future.

He recalled that a mass approach was used for PERUMNAS housing development. There are shortcomings in its implementation. However, a few shortcomings out of the 1,000 good results are normal. "We encounter a strange society," remarked Soenaryono. "If all goes well, there is peace, but there is a loud outcry when there are a few shortcomings.

Alex Miraza, who lives in a walk-up flat, has another outlook. "I am very grateful to the government, particularly to PERUMNAS," he remarked, "because they paid some attention to people who had no houses." He also sees the advantages gained by living in the flat; a person can move up the social scale gradually and the environment is good for growing children and the family.

In general occupants of the flats make intelligent judgments. For instance, they accept the big difference in the amount of the instalment depending on the floor they occupy. The higher the floor, the lower the instalment. (The instalment for the first floor is 61,710 rupiah a month, for the second floor 57,390 rupiah; third floor 53,060 rupiah; fourth floor 48,740 rupiah). Allocation of flats is done through a lottery system.

Two contractors, PT Pembangunan Jaya and PT Wijaya Karya, built the walk-up flats in Tanah Abang. They built 32 blocs and 28 blocs, respectively. Those built by Pembangunan Jaya are visible from afar because some of the outside walls are covered with red brick. The model chosen is called a mushroom flat because each bloc consists of four floors, with four units on each floor, and a central stair well connects each floor. The model selected by Wijaya Karya has two stair wells for every bloc, built in columns of flats rather than in clusters of flats.

The Cortina system, considered a modern system, was selected by PT Jaya. It was imported from Mexico, is more efficient and construction is speedy. For this system "lifting equipment" was imported, that is, special cranes, costing 300 million rupiah. "Conventional methods were used for casting the concrete but it is put up in a modern way," said Eng Ferdinandus, manager of the Pembangunan Jaya housing unit.

But why must such high technology be used? "First, of course, is speed of construction so time is gained. More precision can also be expected; the use of concrete forms makes for more accurate construction than other systems," he explained further.

Did PT Wijaya Karya use its own concept for the concrete panel system? According to Eng Yoyon Mulyana, who was assigned as technical manager for this company, this system was selected because "the foreign system was very expensive." No significant problems arose in its implementation except those regarding the site, which apparently had once been a swamp. "Here we planned to use a pillar foundation but were forced to replace this system with a piling foundation," said Yoyon.

And this clearly affected the cost. Both Ferdinandus and Yoyon said their companies "made no profit" from the walk-up flat projects. Construction costs were estimated at about 1 billion rupiah but were overrun because of increasing costs for building materials.

It is not clear whether PT Hutama Karya had the same problem. This company built four-storied flats on 2.5 hectares of land in Sarijadi, Bandung. They were planned to be finished by May. The project consists of 11 matching blocs (with 32 units in each bloc), costing about 1.25 billion rupiah. Dr P. Sibayang, chief of the subsection for allocation of PERUM PERUMNAS, Bandung, was not prepared to say what the monthly instalments would be but ventured to say that they "clearly would be less than those in Jakarta."

Nevertheless thus far no one has indicated his willingness to live in the Sarijadi flats. "The problem is if one lives on the top floor of the project, one might feel like a pigeon," remarked Yayat Hidayat, who lives in the old-style PERUMNAS housing in Bandung. "It may also be that this is the first time walk-up flats have been available here," Yayat added.

Walk-up flats, of course, are something new in both Jakarta and Bandung. Later this will be true for Medan and Surabaya.

MINISTER SPEAKS ABOUT URBAN RENEWAL

Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 25 Apr 81 pp 64-65

[Article: "With No Satellites, Go Into the Slums"]

[Text] Cosmas Batubara is noted as a minister who travels a good deal around Indonesia. Almost no PERUMNAS [National Housing Company] complex escapes his attention. This April alone his visiting schedule covered seven cities including Banda Aceh and Palangkaraya.

The minister is young (42 years of age), the father of four children, slim and tanned. His darker skin could be the result of his outdoor assignments outside the city, but it also might be the result of playing tennis, usually three times a week.

At first glance, he is no different than anyone else. He is open and smiles readily. Persons close to him, including the executive director of PERUM PERUMNAS, Eng Soenarjono Danoedjo, have their own impressions of him. According to them, this minister is "more Javanese than the Javanese." In other words, the minister, born in Tapanuli, is very refined.

Below is part of the interview given to Ima Sawitri of TEMPO by Vice Minister Cosmas Batubara at the end of last month.

[Question] What is the government's resettlement strategy at this time?

[Answer] At our present level of development we can only formulate a strategy for simple housing for Indonesian families, that is, housing with a 36 square meter floor space, with two bedrooms, a living room which includes a dining area, a bathroom, a WC, and a kitchen. This is the minimum standard in line with available funds.

I am not speaking of an attractive standard--that is another problem. Of course, the housing development concept has been simplified for PELITA III [third 5-year development plan]. But former housing concepts will be continued.

In PELITA II we just had simple and basic housing. In PELITA III we have tried something called sub-basic housing in four cities: Jakarta, Surabaya, Medan, and Bandung. This type of housing is intended for people who have no regular income, of whom there are very many in urban areas.

[Question] Housing construction initially was directed toward opening up new satellites such as Depok, Tangerang, Bekasi, Helvetia, and so on. More recently the government has tried again to rebuild the cities with walk-up flats such as those in the Tanah Abang, Jakarta, area. Why?

[Answer] After we reviewed the situation, we saw that if we continued to build satellites no wet ricefields would exist around the cities. So, for instance, Depok must not be expanded.

Because buildings do not absorb water but rather discharge water. If water from 6,000 hectares is not absorbed, think what will happen during the rainy season when water from the flooded Ciliwung River pours into Jakarta. So let's first give some thought to the higher regions above Jakarta if we want to spare Jakarta. So, in the framework of looking far into the future, we began what is now called urban renewal. In this framework we prepared the Tanah Abang flats.

[Question] What advantages are gained from walk-up flats?

[Answer] A number of steps are achieved simultaneously with urban renewal and walk-up flats. If you build a satellite, you must build roads, but if a slum area is upgraded, the government does not need to build roads. If a slum area was frequently flooded in the past, it can be redesigned. For instance, by constructing drainage to keep pools of water from forming. For children who did not have "space" to play in, "open space" is provided for them. If the area formerly was barren, it can be made green. Musollas, mosques, shopping centers, and the reaction of occupants can be studied and thereafter improvements can be made.

Clearly if one just uses common sense, the walk-up flats were a solution not only for overcoming the problem of limited land available in the urban areas but also to facilitate transportation and cut down the "slums."

From another aspect, occupants of the flats must be very well disciplined. As to whether the occupants are or are not, there are two answers: they are or they are not yet. If I had my say, I'd say let's begin to discipline them.

[Question] In their efforts to get land in the urban areas, if I am not wrong, the government ran into the land owners. And the situation became more complicated because these land owners felt they were entitled to receive priority for PERUMNAS housing.

[Answer] If land is needed by those who want to build on it, land owned by others, the matter must be discussed with the owners. For this reason perhaps, the Special Capital Region proposed to begin with state-owned land. In our way of thinking, the problem was that people's lives should be improved. I went through the kampungs around the flats. Housing there was far below standard. If they wanted to improve the environment there, it could be done. The problem here is "desire." If the people do not want to do this, how can the government improve the situation?

Housing priority continues to be given to those who have no houses. In the next phase, the landowners get housing. Mutual desire is important. Details of the problem can be discussed on a case by case basis.

[Question] Is the housing pattern implemented by the government in the same way in all regions of Indonesia?

[Answer] The same way. The types of houses and the land area are the same, because housing is being built and not a house. Housing consists of houses and the surroundings which consist of infrastructure and facilities such as roads, drainage, water, electricity. The maximum standard for all this is 200 square meters. It is different for a private home. However, a house subsidized by the government is always built using the same standard.

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CSO: 8127/1060

FISCAL YEAR TRANSMIGRATION TARGETS OUTLINED

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 6 Mar 81 pp 1, 7

[Article: "Government Faces New Challenges for Developing Transmigrants"]

[Excerpt] The government faces new challenges in developing transmigrants in resettlement areas compared to those for transmigrants who have already been moved.

From January to December 1979, 13,010 families were moved. This grew to 62,339 in 1980 and during the 2 months and 4 days of 1981 (from January to 4 March), 14,361 families were moved. The 64,000-family "carry over" from the 1981 target of 100,000 families as of 1 April 1981 must be added to this year's total. In the new fiscal year of 1981/82, therefore, 164,000 families must be resettled. The 1 April carry over is far less than the 79,556 families that were carried over as of 1 January 1979.

This transmigration problem was reported to President Suharto on Thursday [5 March] at the Bina Graha by Prof Drs Harun Al-Rasyid Zein, NAKERTRANS (manpower, transmigration, and cooperatives) minister along with Vice Minister for Transmigration Martono and Transmigration Director General Kadarusno.

Kadarusno said the new challenges for this year are more training for specialists in agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries, and veterinary medicine as well as for graduates of senior agricultural high schools and agricultural technical schools so that they can immediately handle problems arising in the transmigration sites. The period for developing specialists should be cut from 5 to 3 years, better yet if it were cut to 2 or 2 and 1/2 years. When this development period is completed, they will be sent to the various regions involved to develop transmigrants in the new sites.

Meanwhile Vice Minister Martono said the Lampung transmigration project requires special handling since a resettlement area financed through the budget is planned for Lampung as of 1 April.

Four ministers recently made an observation tour of Lampung to study what preparations need be made for resettlement there and to determine how those methods can be applied in other provinces. The four ministers were NAKERTRANS Minister Harun Zein, Agriculture Minister Sudarsono, Research and Technology Minister Habibie, and Vice Minister of Transmigration Martono. They were accompanied by Transmigration Director General Kadarusno.

On that occasion the feasibility of starting an "energy estate" in the transmigration project was studied. Two hundred hectares have been cleared for this estate in the Tulang Bawang transmigration project. The Tulang Bawang energy estate is a pilot project for all the provinces. Here tubers (particularly cassava) will be planted. These will be converted into ethanol. If this pilot project is successful, it will be carried out in other provinces.

The transmigration resettlement target for Lampung is 50,000 families, of whom 5,000 have already volunteered to move to the area and the remaining 45,000 will follow, including 10,000 who will be resettled in 1981/82.

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CSO: 4213/54

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CSO: 4213/54

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

ECONOMIC RETALIATION--Drs Sudardji, chairman of Commission VII of Parliament, affirmed that we must "show our fangs" to Italy and France for their sudden halt to importing readymade clothing from Indonesia. When questioned about a response to the Italian and French sudden cancellation of orders for Indonesian-made men's shirts, as reported in PELITA on Tuesday [3 March], Sudardji replied, "We must take another look at our imports from these two countries and then import the same items from other countries." We must cut off items used for development as well as those used for ordinary business purposes which we have been importing from Italy and France and seek them in other countries. We must stop all government imports as well as private sector imports, he added, further clarifying what he meant by "showing our fangs." Sudardji reminded us that Britain had taken the same step some time ago and we retaliated by stopping our imports from Britain. This produced good results for Britain changed its attitude, Sudardji said. We must also be resolute now in confronting Italy and France, he added. The step taken by Italy and France against Indonesia is an indication of continuing conflicts of interest between advanced and developing nations. This is why the nations in the Group of 77 must remain vigilant, Sudardji said. If European Economic Community nations do this, they are not supporting the dawn of world economic peace. [Excerpts] [Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 4 Mar 81 pp 1, 7] 6804

CSO: 4213/54

AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS OF FUTURE OUTLINED

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 4 Mar 81 pp 1, 7

[Article: "Agricultural Sector Will Face Huge Problems in the Next Twenty Years"]

[Text] PERAGI (Indonesian Agronomy Association) members feel the agricultural sector will be faced with huge problems in the next 20 years, particularly with regard to food crops.

The problems facing the country in the coming 20-year period and the measures to be taken to resolve them will be discussed at the second PERAGI Congress and the National Agronomy Conference to be held in Jakarta for 3 days beginning 31 March.

The opinions of these experts were reported to President Suharto on Tuesday [3 March] at the Bina Graha by Eng Ahmad Afandi, vice minister for food affairs and acting chairman of PERAGI, who was accompanied by other executives of the organization, Prof Dr Eng Gunawan Satari, Dr Eng Sjamsoe'oad Sadjad, Eng Soemantri, and Eng Djatiyanto.

PERAGI Chairman Eng Ahmad Affandi said PERAGI's view is supported on eleven counts:

1. The preliminary report on the national census shows a total population of 147.86 million and a population growth rate of 2.34 percent.
2. Half of the gross domestic product (GDP) comes from the agricultural sector and most of it depends on smallholder agricultural units.
3. The 14 million depressed smallholder agricultural units have little capital, little knowledge and technology and management, and use traditional farming methods.
4. These small units consist of arable plots averaging less than 1 hectare; their numbers will increase, and the size of the arable plots will be reduced.
5. More than 60 percent of Indonesia's food is grown in Java which is densely populated and whose arable land continues to decrease with the increasing encroachment of residential developments and allocation of land for industrial purposes.
6. An estimated 12 million economically depressed farmers produce almost all the food (paddy, secondary crops, vegetables and fruits) and they are spurred on to increase food production at the rate of 4 percent per year.

7. The threat of depletion of natural resources has been with us for a long time.
8. The continuing increase in manpower and unemployment, totaling 1.6 million persons per year, causes concern.
9. Non-fossil fuel consumption is increasing at the rate of 14 to 15 percent a year. This is of concern because the supply must not run low in the next 20 to 25 year period, considering that fossil fuel is still expected to play a role as the primary producer of foreign exchange.
10. The organizational and institutional structure of the Department of Agriculture at present continues to use an information system approach.
11. The production, stockpile, and marketing systems are being handled by a variety of agencies. The production, stockpile, marketing, and consumption systems actually comprise a supra system that should be considered as a whole to facilitate handling its various elements intensively to maintain a balance among the elements to achieve benefits in each of the systems.

According to PERAGI, the congress and conference will seek ideas on how to solve these problems. About 400 participants are expected to contribute ideas on formulating new concepts for both micro- and macroagriculture models, based on observation and analysis.

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CSO: 4213/54

INFORMATION ON PRK AND SRV MILITARY UNITS

[The following information was extracted from Phnom Penh Domestic Service broadcasts at 1200 GMT unless otherwise indicated or from Vietnamese press material as indicated. Unit designators and locations are as given. The remarks include a brief summary of the information available in the source.]

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
317th Gp	Unit members who completed military service in Kampuchea were feted by the 1st Precinct, Ho Chi Minh City on 5 Dec 80 (Ho Chi Minh City 6 Dec 80 p 1)
38th Gp	Serving in Kampuchea. Commended for improved discipline (NHA' DAN 8 Jan 81 p 3)
7708th Gp	A headquarters officer: Lieutenant Colonel Vo Hoang Minh [VOX HOANGF MINH]. This unit is serving in Kampuchea (Ho Chi Minh City TIN SANG 26 Dec 80 p 8)
82nd Gp 4th Bn	Serving outside Vietnam (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 13 Jan 81 p 2)
Dong Bang Div 48th Regt 52nd Regt 64th Regt 16th AA Machine Gun Co, M.8 Gp	Deputy Division Commander: Le Nong [LEE NOONG]. In 1980 was withdrawn from Kampuchea for intensive training (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 16 Jan 81 p 3)
7th Plat, 3rd Co, 1st Bn, M.32 Gp	Located at Dum Dam Prey Hamlet, Ta Rop Village, Chuong Prey District, Kompong Cham Province, Kampuchea (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 6 Jan 81 p 2)
75th Gp, Kampuchea Revolutionary People's Army	This recently activated unit is one of several main force border defense units (Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG 7 Jan 81 p 2)

3rd Group, Kampuchea Revolutionary
Army

Photos of unit members training meeting
with local villagers and reading news-
paper (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 22 Jan 81 p 2)

6th Bn, Vinh Quang Gp

Located in Kampuchea. Deployed on
Highway 4 (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 9 Feb 81 p 3)

H.70 Gp, 5th MR

Photo of unit bridging a body of water in
support of VPA forces "performing an
international mission" (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN
10 Feb 81 p 1)

2d Battalion, Koh Kong

Statement by commander on achievements
made by his unit last year and targets
for this year: 6 ha of crops planted,
15 houses built for people, vigilance
heightened (12 Feb 81)

First Battalion, Krakor
District, Pursat

Helped people in rice planting, house
building (14 Feb 81)

86th Battalion of Cavalry
Force, Kong Pisei District,
Kompong Speu

Station correspondent describing training
and building unit. Unit took part in
maintaining security and providing food
for people. Paramedics also provided
medical treatment for civilian patients
(17 Feb 81)

12th Co, 3rd Bn, B.32 Gp

Has served and may still be serving in
Kampuchea (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 23 Feb 81
p 2)

72d Battalion of Signal Corp

Station correspondent article on changes
in training of cadres and combatants in
signal technique (27 Feb 81)

3rd Infantry Regt, 9th MR

Located in Kampuchea (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN
27 Feb 81 p 3)

19th Battalion in Kompong Thom
Province

Report on achievements of mass agitation
effort (28 Feb 81)

3rd Battalion, Takeo Armed
Forces

Newspaper article telling how members of
this unit kept themselves fit by drilling
constantly and upheld high sense of
discipline by emulating with each other
in work and combat (9 Mar 81)

8th Battalion of Kompong Cham
Province

Successfully built its units. Political
and military training were emphasized and
stimulated. Presents impressions by
Battalion Commander (Yin Hong) (12 Mar 81)

19th Battalion, Kompong Thom Province	Rescued a group of fishermen being robbed by Pol Pot remnants at (Stoeng Cho) 2 km away from Tonle Sap Lake (14 Mar 81)
Kpraf Infantry School	Held meeting to study Defense Ministry's circular on election 11 Mar in presence of school officials (19 Mar 81)
81st Battalion	Statement hailing draft constitution favorably comparing PRK Constitution with early Cambodian constitutions (19 Mar 81)
H.4 Regt	Component of a Corps [Binh Doan] of which Major General Nguyen Chon [NGUYEENX CHOWN] may be a member and which appears to be in the south or in Kampuchea (NHAN DAN 26 Mar 81 p 2)
H.03 Tank Brigade	" " " "
M.64 Artillery Regt	" " " "
Units of 1st Division	" Harvested 50 tons of rainy-season rice, bred 21 oxen, 37 hogs and 207 chickens, helped people harvest 80 ha of rice, build 16 houses (28 Mar 81)
23d Battalion of 2d Division	Provided protection of people harvesting rice, helped them harvest and thresh rice. It tended gardens and bred hogs and chickens for own needs (28 Mar 81)
12th Battalion of Kompong Som City	Opened 2-month political study course for cadres and combatants. It planted vegetables and bred hogs and chickens for own needs (28 Mar 81)
17th Battalion of Kompong Thom	Reconnaissance group uncovered and foiled an attempt by Pol Pot remnant troops to steal people's rice in Khar Village, Stoung District, on 12 Feb (28 Mar 81)
23d Battalion	Holding political course for cadres, combatants; helping local people in harvest and reconstruction; tending vegetable gardens for own needs (4 Apr 81)
23d Battalion of 2d Regiment	Article by correspondent on building of units hails efforts by leading cadres to improve units through political education, material care, civic action and gaining people's confidence and support (7 Apr 81)

Battalion 16-A, Svay Rieng
Province

Article by correspondent notes successes of unit in sweep operations and mass agitation work in Romeas Hek District (11 Apr 81)

2d Battalion of Kompong Speu
Province

Station correspondent article describing encounter with cadres and combatants who praised Commander (Mor Chor) for his excellent performance in leading unit in all operations--sweeps against enemy remnants, mass persuasion work and unit building (18 Apr 81)

1st Battalion of Takeo
Provincial Armed Forces

Article describing growth, interviewing provincial forces commander on steps taken by unit to improve itself and become outstanding unit in observing discipline, dealing with mass and conducting operations (21 Apr 81)

5th Task Group, Samraong Tong
District, Kompong Speu

Feature telling how (Chea Sat), 34, head of the group, worked in mass persuasion operation trying to win over people misled by Pol Pot remnants. Notes success of his group's effort to make people understand KNUFNS and KPRC policies (21 Apr 81)

Political and Military Training
School in Phnom Penh-Dei Eth area

Opening fourth political-military training course for cadres and combatants. In addition to giving training, school also promotes production drive. So far, over 3,500 kilograms of various vegetables were planted; 4 oxen and 25 hogs were raised (25 Apr 81)

2d Battalion of Kompong Speu
Province

Made good achievements in mopping up enemy elements and supporting people. Since Jan 81 the battalion captured 35 reactionary elements, seized 112 weapons and helped people to reap 50 ha of rice (25 Apr 81)

2d Battalion of Koh Kong
Province

Opened training courses for cadres, combatants to study four documents to strengthen discipline and understand central policy (14 May 81)

91st Battalion of Koh Kong
Province

Attending training course, maintaining security and assisting people (16 May 81)

19th Battalion, Kompong Thom
Province

Attending political courses, planting
crops and raising animals (16 May 81)

19th Battalion in Kompong Thom
Province

Article by correspondent depicting
development of cadres and combatants
(21 May 81)

Vietnamese company of Battalion 30,
Thmar Bang District, Koh Kong

Helped four old women from the jungle
(23 May 81)

(D) 4212/18

TEXT OF HINDU INTERVIEW WITH PAKISTAN FOREIGN MINISTER

Madras THE HINDU in English 1, 2 May 81

[Interview with Agha Shahi, foreign minister of Pakistan, by N. Ram at the United Nations on 24 April 1981]

[1 May 81 p 8]

[Text]

QUESTION: Mr. Foreign Minister, in the recent period and particularly since 1977, there appears to have started a process widely welcomed in our countries. A process of normalisation or at least improvement of ties on the diplomatic, trade, cultural and other fronts, including sports. And some of the major landmarks after the Simla Agreement appear to be the Satal Dam Agreement, your visits in May 1978 and in 1980.

Meanwhile, there was a return visit by the Indian Foreign Minister. And in November 1980 President Zia advised Prime Minister Mrs. Gandhi of his "willingness to normalise relations". Quite recently, something seems to have happened to upset this. Coming from India, I see quite a lot of concern over what has happened. How would you place it in the context of what has happened, particularly since 1977?

ANSWER: Well, we made considerable progress towards normalisation of relations. And this was being done irrespective of the regime in either country. Actually, the movement towards normalisation started in the time of Mrs. Gandhi herself, from 1974-75. I was then Foreign Secretary and I and my Indian counterpart made an agreement for the restoration of diplomatic relations, resumption of trade, travel. Some of this we have been implementing.

I think there is a totally unfounded fear in India about what is called the "arming of Pakistan". This is a very unfortunate phrase because it raises the spectre of some fearful shadow falling over India. If you look at it dispassionately, what is the arming of Pakistan?

Arms embargo

You know, from 1965, military aid from the United States stopped. We tried to buy something while they said, "you can buy spare parts, non-lethal weapons, or supplies". Then, again, for one reason or another, they clamped down the embargo. And it was lifted in 1975. Even then, we got supplies because most of our equipment has been of American origin then came President Carter and he introduced a new arms policy. He said he would not allow new weapons to go into areas where they do not exist. This had reference to our interest in some A-7 aircraft at that time. And then they offered us some other aircraft, F-5 or something.

Then, they made an issue of our agreement with France on the nuclear reprocessing plant. Even though we were bound hand and foot, there was no possibility of cheating, to secrete plutonium. We offered all kinds of guarantees. We said, "you take away all the plutonium and place it under international control and give us only what we may need". But the U.S. effectively sabotaged that agreement. And after some time, President Giscard d'Estaing said that agreement wasn't implemented. So that was used as an excuse for embargo on supplies, even purchases.

What we need is, you understand. You have said in India that you need to replace your obsolete military equipment. I'm sure that every far-minded Indian would say that Pakistan also has the need to replace obsolete equipment. You know we have some squadrons of F-66 aircraft, which were phased out all over the world in the 1960s. And we are using them.

cannibalizing them, and several of our pilots have been lost on account of we have grounded the. We have the Chinese F-10s, we have a few Mirages.

Suddenly, India felt it must upgrade, replace its obsolete squadrons. And you went in for some 200 Jaguars costing two billion dollars. I believe 40 of them have already been delivered. Well, we were worried, but we didn't raise a furor. You, know, any expert will tell you that this is a long-range aircraft which avoids radar by flying low and it carries heavy payloads, and the Americans offered to give you navigation and guidance equipment. We didn't raise a furor. And in our professional military judgment, these 200 aircraft are only good against Pakistan. Because they don't have the range to be a threat to Chinese industrial or military centres. But still we — since 1978 — have been trying to get some modern aircraft.

Military balance

We have told you repeatedly that we shall in no way enter into an arms race with India. We have no resources to match your build-up, nor do we have any desire to do so. But we do need a certain kind of modern aircraft — of the interceptor type. And whatever we get, given our resources, will be only a fraction. do you think that about three to four squadrons of interceptor aircraft will threaten the security of India when you have 200 Jaguars?

Q: These will be F-16s/79?

A: Well, whatever it is. Supposing, they are interceptors, they are not long-range aircraft. Suppose we get a few squadrons of them. Does the military balance which is so much in your favour — get upset? So we ask ourselves, why is India so worried?

Similarly, there are critical shortages in our army in terms of tanks. We have Chinese tanks and you have T-72 tanks. I told Mr. Rao when I visited Delhi last year July 1980, and I met Madam Gandhi and she said they were worried about it. I said, Madam, why are you to worry about this? Because we are ready to sit with you instead of making these public statements which only confuse. The laymen in both countries get worried. They don't know what to make of these statements.

What level of forces and armaments from Pakistan will constitute a threat to India should be a matter of professional military judgment — on both sides. So I suggested, we can sit down together with our military experts and discuss what should be the level of forces and ratios of armaments. If you feel that Pakistan is a threat anyway, taking into account our total number of forces and defence equipment and location (and similarly your location along our borders and all that), we can be assured we can reach an agreement.

Because we have no intention of going to war with India under any circumstances.

A no-war pact

Use of force is ruled out by the Simla Agreement. Even the status quo in Kashmir is not to be disturbed by military means. We have eschewed the use of force. So this is a no-war pact. What more? You can give it any title you want. But what the Simla Agreement says is a no-war pact.

So we made the proposal in order to reassure India and convince them of our bona fides. But India reacted strongly. They said, you made the public statement. And this you should not have done. So I told Foreign Minister Rao the next day when I met him. I said, well, we didn't do this in order to create any propaganda. It was sincerely meant. If you feel you don't wish to discuss this matter, we'll drop this. But then you know that the Indian press about the visit that I had paid. They said they wriggled me on the knuckles.

Q: But I'm told that that misunderstanding was set right by a telephone call.

A: Yes, it was set right by a number of people. They published something to have transpired which did not figure in our talks. So anyway.

Q: But that was set right, is that clear.

A: Well, more or less. But you know the purpose of the visit was largely undimmed. But anyway, now there is a great anxiety in India. I wish to state categorically that Pakistan will never commit aggression against India. We are not for trying military conclusions. You can rest assured that anything we get, naturally, every country will defend itself if attacked with whatever it has. But we face a difficult situation. You know what the position in the West is.

Supposing even there is a local attack. Well, with what will the local attack take place? It will take place with more modern and sophisticated armaments than we have.

So if we want to replenish some equipment, this should not be a cause of concern to India.

Now, you're worried that we are going into an aid relationship. I want to tell you categorically we have told the U.S. We think India's fears are so baseless as to be incomprehensible. Nevertheless, we would prefer not to have an aid relationship. We want.

Military sales

Q: How would you define an 'aid relationship'?

A: That they, under the legislation, extend to us grant aid. We said, we're interested in economic aid and we want suppliers' credits to go to the manufacturers.

Q: But it is classified as "security assistance" under their budget.

A: That is for their own purposes, you see. But if we go to the manufacturers and we arrange the terms of repayment and rate of interest, then all we need from the U.S. is political clearance. But we're told that in the U.S. there's no system of suppliers' credits by the arms manufacturers. We have to go to their loan institutions and borrow money. Which will be 12-13 per cent. I don't know if keeps changing according to the going rate of interest.

So we are exploring an economic aid and military sales relationship. Not a military aid relationship — meaning grant aid.

Now, I also said, in a public statement before I went to Washington, India got highly favourable terms for purchase of armaments — 17 years payment, two-and-a-half per cent interest, and 10 years grace period. We like that the U.S. extend similar terms to us. Then they gave me the answer. They said, "The U.S. administration has no authority to reduce prices."

Q: Are you suggesting that prices were discounted?

A: Yes, in your agreement.

Q: Apart from low interest rates?

A: Your agreement although on this, I don't wish to provoke a controversy. You may publish it if you like or not.

Q: We will publish what you say.

A: No, no, your agreement — 1.6 billion dollars if the same quantity and quality of equipment were bought in the international market, and considering the terms of payment that you have secured, which are so favourable over the maximum terms that would be available through commercial credits in Europe, we think your deal is worth between six to eight billion dollars. And your Japanese, you had given out the figure, they are two billion dollars.

Needless worry

Therefore I ask you if we even through these loans which will be a very big burden on us and some economic aid, buy military equipment of the order of two billion dollars in five years and in five years who knows whether the programme can go through, it is subject to appropriation by the Congress every year.

Will that be a threat to India? You must be far-minded. So we don't understand why our Indian friends are worried. We pay great attention to their susceptibilities. Mr Rao is coming to Pakistan.

We are ready. If you think that we're going to arm ourselves to the teeth and become a threat to you, we're ready to undertake an agreement to say that we will not arm ourselves to the teeth.

Q: A formal agreement?

A: Yes. We have said we will not seek parity of armaments. We can agree on ratios, a reasonable ratio. You see if we want to commit aggression against you, we must be militarily stronger than you. So that is impossible.

Q: Is that the way it has always happened in the past?

A: Of course. After all, any soldier will tell you. After all, look at all the professional soldiers, this is all very scientific. That a country which wants to attack must commence with a three-to-one superiority. Now after five years, we get two billion dollars worth of equipment. Does it give us any aggression capability against India?

I want to tell you in reasonable talk. And I'm sure if your military men and our military men were to sit opposite each other, they would at once reach understanding. And your military men will be able to assure your Government that whatever arms Pakistan would be able to get, would not be arming itself to the teeth. And it would never enable Pakistan to try military conclusions with India.

So we ask you to take an understanding attitude. Recently, words have been used to say that the storm clouds of war are gathering.

Q: You're referring to Mrs Gandhi's

Limiting factors

A: What I wish to say is that in Pakistan we have no such clouds. They are peaceful skies. We are ready to enter into a discussion with India to allay mutual apprehensions. Why not try a dialogue? Is it our fault you don't want to discuss with us, you don't want to try a dialogue, and you build your fears on no basis?

We're not getting into an aid relationship. And secondly, I will tell you, that we have said that our relationship with the U.S. must take into account limiting factors on both sides. To be a durable relationship, they must take these into account.

Limiting factors on our side are our relationship with the U.S. must be consistent with our allegiance to the principles of the non-aligned movement. This rules out multilateral military arrangements, formal or informal. They —

Q: For the region, of any kind?

A: Of any kind. For the region, naturally. We will not be drawn into NATO (Gangha) or some such thing.

Q: Okay.

A: There is no question of giving any bases. To be fair to the Americans, they have told us that all the talk in the press about a strategic regional consensus does, in no way, represent the thinking

of the Reagan Administration. It is based on ideas put out by various people and press speculation stories. They said, we would never think of asking you to give us bases. Your non-alignment we consider to be important to the peace and stability of the region. And we have admiration for the way you have conducted yourselves and tried to steer the non-aligned movement towards true non-alignment.

We made it clear to them we're committed to the positions of the Islamic Conference on the Palestine question, on the Middle East. We would not be in a position to support any Camp David or so a other peace process. We support the Arab cause. And on the question of Jerusalem our position is well known.

The U.S. Administration have assured us that they do not want to involve us, or, to use your Foreign Minister's phrase, to be "sucked into these things. You see, we want to build a new durable relationship taking into account all these limiting factors. And a relationship consistent with Pakistan's non-alignment, and the positions to which it is pledged as a member of the Islamic Conference.

Q: Now,

Gulf's security

We also told them that on the question of the Gulf, we are committed to the Moscow Declaration which says that the security of the Gulf and the safety of its seelanes is the exclusive responsibility of the Gulf States. So we cannot support any proposal put by one superpower or the other superpower for the security of the Gulf. We feel that if the Gulf States guarantee the uninterrupted flow of oil, then all the global interests would be, should be fully met.

And there's no reason for superpowers to come and inject their military presence in the region in order to protect it. Because there will be a danger. If both come in, then there is a danger of confrontation. Or there would be a danger of mutual accommodation over the heads of the regional States.

Q: Here, unless I'm cutting off your train of thought, it might be relevant to raise the concern with you. Now you have dwelt in detail on your position — as a member of the non-aligned community, as a leading power in the Islamic Conference, your own bilateral relations with India, as you see it. I'd like you — if you will — to sit back and look at the U.S. role in this, looking at its overall record.

You point to Afghanistan. But given the militarisation on the part of the U.S. of the Indian Ocean and Gulf region, regardless of what India or Pakistan might want to do, isn't there a sucking in effect? Isn't there something which is tension-raising?

A: Not at all. As far as Pakistan

is concerned, what the U.S. is going to do vis-a-vis the Soviet Union as far as our position is concerned as to the region of the Persian Gulf, we have a say. We're not a Gulf country, we will support the positions taken by the Gulf States. We are clear about it. And we have been assured in these talks that the U.S. fully respects Pakistan's position as a non-aligned country. They desire nothing more than that Pakistan should strengthen its security interests.

Q: But does not their military activity, their considerably enhanced and strengthened military activity cause concern?

A: Considerable military activity where?

Q: In the Indian Ocean and Gulf region.

A: You know they have concentrated their forces in the mouth of the Persian Gulf because of the hostages question. The hostages question has been resolved. Now we are trying to do our best to bring an end to the Iraq-Iran war.

And we are on public record as saying that the American military presence from the mouth of the Persian Gulf must be withdrawn. We have said that — in the resolutions of the Islamic Conference, in our statements, my statements.

Now, the question of the Indian Ocean had best be tackled under the auspices of the United Nations. There was a proposal for a world conference.

Blow to détente

I'm afraid that the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan has poisoned the world political atmosphere. It has inflicted a blow to détente and it has retarded the prospects of Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. It has led to the determination on the part of Western countries to what they call modernise their theatre nuclear weapons. And so on.

What we envisaged step by step is that if we improve our relations with the Soviet Union, and I said on the basis consistent with our non-alignment, recognising the limiting factor, we will persist in our policy of seeking a political solution of the Afghanistan situation through the intermediacy of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative.

Our position has in no way changed. We came under great pressure from all sides not to undertake a dialogue even on the basis of non-recognition. But we maintain our position. The moment Iran agrees to participate, we will have a bilateral conference.

Q: Would not that be putting a very high, difficult condition, given the attitude of Iran? Couldn't Pakistan take a positive step by itself?

A: We can take the step through the intermediacy of the representative of the

Secretary-General. If you mean we have to sit across the table, that will not be possible. Why, of course, we do not want to go against the wishes of so many countries of the world which are supporting us. We do not want to divide ourselves.

But the Secretary-General's representative can go to Kabul, come to Islamabad, practice such diplomacy.

Q. Which he did recently.

A. It was only the beginning, and an encouraging step forward has been taken, in that Kabul has accepted the good offices of the Secretary-General. So this can continue. But we feel that it is not realistic that Iran will participate. You must make allowance for the fact that Iran is at war with Iraq, that their whole time and energies are absorbed in the war. That also there is an internal unresolved political situation within Iran. So we've had talks with them. We believe they understand the situation better. But we need to have the communication. We would hope that the Secretary-General's Special Representative will go to Iran.

• Meanwhile, there is nothing to prevent him from trying to advance. We would be carrying on a dialogue through his intermediacy and not across the table.

Q. You think that is quite satisfactory given the present constraints?

Common elements

A. No, for instance, see what the Islamic Committee of Heads of State. It went to Teheran, it went to Baghdad. It

made shuttle trips, came forward with a very good peace plan — ceasefire, withdrawal, the reference of Shatt-el-Arab to a committee. And we provided for observers. We provided for a commission to go into the question of sovereignty over Shatt-el-Arab. A commission to investigate the responsibility for the war. And then a peacekeeping force to ensure the freedom of navigation in Shatt-el-Arab pending settlement of the issue between Iraq and Iran. And we were all ready to come with our forces. We even agreed to earmark them, we agreed on financing.

The result is that although neither side has fully accepted these proposals, both went on to continue with the effort. So we have made very encouraging progress in studying the respective positions and coming forward with something we think is practical and pragmatic and which would bring about a quick end to the war.

There are great possibilities provided the will is there to cooperate, and there is will on our part to cooperate with the representative of the Secretary-General. We have said our stand will be based on the November 20 resolution of the U.N. General Assembly. The Soviet Union doesn't accept the resolution. Well, we don't want to quarrel with that. We will base our stand on that resolution, the Soviets or Afghan authorities can say they take their stand on the May 14 proposal. There are some common elements. Then the Secretary-General's representative would try to bring the positions close.

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[Text]

QUESTION. So, to sum up. Your position now is that it remains what it was (Mr. Shahi nods). And has responded to the specific problems of Iran. And therefore you are putting all your emphasis on the Secretary-General's intermediacy or representation through him.

Answer: Yes.

Q. And you remain committed to some form of exchange, however indirect, with the Karmel regime as a party, as a political party or a force that has to be reckoned with?

A. That is being accepted.

Q. That remains.

A. That, yes, we will. The point is that without Iran we won't sit at a conference table with the representatives of Babrak Karmel even as a political party. But there is no impediment to a dialogue with the opposite side as representing a political party and ourselves through the personal representative of the Secretary-General.

Q. You see no obstacle or no impediment brought against this by either the U.S. or the Soviet Union?

A. I think the encouraging factor has been the Soviet Union has not objected to the appointment of a personal representative. He has been received in Kabul. And we hope he can go with the Secretary-General to Moscow early next month.

And as for the U.S., they know our policy is clear, we have enunciated it publicly. We have stood firm against criticism from various sides — from our closest friends — and we reiterated our policy in my talks in Washington.

Q. Mr. Shahi, let me ask you about another aspect of your Government's policy towards Afghanistan. Recently, Mr. Ronald Reagan made the not very subtle suggestion that the U.S. funnel arms into Pakistan for the Afghan resistance.

A. I was told that it was an off-the-cuff remark. I have made it clear that Pakistan would adhere to its position. We do not want to get involved in this. And there was no challenge to our position. Of course, some Congressmen want Pakistan to commit itself to such a role. You know that the U.S. people speak out freely. But our policy has been accepted.

Q: Would you say your Government considers itself bound by the formulation in the New Delhi non-aligned declaration that has two elements — a call for withdrawal of foreign forces and respect for the principle of non-intervention?

A: Yes. We want the solution to be on the basis of the right of the Afghan people to self-determination.

Q: Mr. Foreign Minister, let me ask you about your reported arrangement with Saudi Arabia.

A: We have a training mission in Saudi Arabia. But they are all engineers, technicians, signmen and so on. They are there to provide administrative and such types of support. This talk of Pakistan sending a division to Saudi Arabia is false. Our relationship will be strictly bilateral and we have made it clear there will be no arrangement with the U.S.

What I said earlier can be given a slight twist, and you have the story. I said that if we could have some financial assistance, we could be more at ease. It was reported (by a Syrian journalist) that I said: "If Pakistan is given upto five to seven billion dollars, we can become the policemen of the Persian Gulf. We don't want to become a policeman. We want to maintain our independence. If others consider us important to the stability and peace of the area, they are welcome to help. But from us, there will be no *quo pro quo*."

Q: Thank you. If I may take up very quickly specific questions related to what you said earlier about buying arms, about legitimate security concerns and so on. The question has been raised in India. They are cognisant of your argument that it is a move to defend Pakistan and here comes the grey area. Is it against the possible fall-out of the Soviet presence in Afghanistan? If that were the case, they are raising the question how important is the task of improving bilateral, State-to-State relations with India.

There is, on the one hand, the reason given which makes your security concern particularly pressing or urgent, namely what has happened in Afghanistan. As against that, you have the impact on the military balance in South Asia, specifically between Pakistan and India.

A: I don't think there is any impact on the military balance. I say, let us discuss this question whether the acquisition of arms on the scale that we have in mind will have an impact. You assume it will have an impact. We don't think it will. So why not let us sit down across the table and convince each other?

Q: I have a related question. It is also contended in India that the types of weapons you are seeking are basically offensive in character. They are seen in

Indian strategic thinking, even in articles by military personnel, as basically offensive in character. And not at all suited to the defence of your western front. Given the deployment that both countries, for whatever unfortunate historical reasons, have, on your eastern front, isn't there — whatever the intention — a danger of the kind of weapons you are seeking being attracted to the front?

A: We have committed ourselves to no confrontation, to non-use of force under the Simla Agreement. Now, you see the types of weapons we have in mind to purchase, are they offensive weapons?

Q: Yes?

A: This is not so. This again should be a matter of professional military judgment, not what you say or I say. So why can't our experts sit down and see if certain types of interceptors are offensive or defensive. But there's no question your 200 Jaguars are offensive weapons. So India should not be unreasonable and say, "I will have overwhelming offensive capability. Pakistan should not even have some offensive capability." That is one question.

Secondly, I think the difficulty in both countries is that we are only told of Indian power and Indian deployment and you are told only of Pakistan power and Pakistan deployment. There again, I think much is known. Because I think you have all your cantonments along our border. And deployment, much of your strength is known to us. And our strength is known to you.

So the question that you have raised, I think can easily be resolved and fears allayed to mutual satisfaction if there is a sincere dialogue between us.

Because what is the best policy for a country? A friendly country. I don't want to go into this point. I think we face such an entirely new qualitative situation that we need to make mental adjustments. And the first thing we've got to do is to reassure each other. Because old syndromes are revived and we must guard against this.

Let us talk to each other and convince each other. Because what you possess and what we are going to possess. Will it represent a threat to you? If so, how we can so deploy our respective armaments in order to reinforce mutual assurance.

Q: Could you sketch for us how you see the purpose of the Indian External Affairs Minister's visit to Pakistan? What could be achieved?

A: I think if it contributes to allaying unfounded apprehensions, it would be a great success. And we are ready to talk to him frankly and sincerely, as we've always done.

Q: Mr. Foreign Minister, let me put to you a question which has perhaps been put bluntly before. The question is often raised in India and elsewhere the U.S. comes to this question of Afghanistan with its own angle, it has a particular set of

policies. Its contention is that the present situation in that region is so "tense," so "special" that "we have to resort to these steps in relation to Pakistan." It is that Pakistan must be built up as a power that will be able to "stand up" to pressure or "threat" (or whatever the word) that has arisen after the Soviet Union moved into Afghanistan. The question asked to Pakistan, often bluntly, is: Do you seriously believe you will be able to counter the overwhelming military capability, the power, the deployment of the Soviet Union...

Theoretical fear

A: This is a purely theoretical question. It is based on theoretical fear. We don't believe that the Soviet Union will launch a massive military attack against Pakistan. Because if it does that, then the situation in that kind of event can precipitate a truly global crisis.

What is relevant is a limited attack. And even that limited attack will be undertaken with much more modern weaponry than what Pakistan possesses. What if MIG-23s attack us? And the scale of the purchase we have in mind is only to meet a local attack. In these days of inflation, how much military equipment does two billion dollars buy? How much does it buy? We have to purchase at market rates.

Q: But we are told that apart from FMS (U.S. Foreign Military Sales) credits, you're also interested in commercial transactions which would be facilitated through other resources. And in that connection you've read the reports about Saudi Arabia...

A: My friend, don't worry about it. Two to three billion dollars over five years is not going to make any difference.

Q: That's the range you're talking about. Thank you.

A: You have already procured 10 billion dollars' worth. Why are you worried about it?

Nuclear weapons

Q: May I get your thoughts on the issue of nuclear non-proliferation? You have already mentioned the U.S. response, which you considered unwarranted, to your reprocessing arrangement with France in an earlier period. Now there seems to be common elements in India's and Pakistan's positions. They are rather well known. But there is also talk about developing a nuclear strategic capability — on both sides, of course.

A: On your side. Because you're turning to rocketry. You're close to the Soviet Union. You've already put something into orbit. We haven't even started.

Q: Let me ask you this question, Mr. Shah: if you would care to respond to it directly. You mentioned that reprocessing. When you enter into that arrangement, there is no problem. Now Pakistan has

no way of using enrichment, enriched uranium in the near future.

A: Excuse me, we have. We're going to go in for a power water reactor. And all the uranium we can enrich will be barely sufficient for that reactor. Six to eight hundred million dollars. We delayed this because we had some difficulty in raising finances. You know the cost of nuclear power stations has been going up. We have plans for a nuclear power reactor based on enriched uranium. This is what we are going to do.

The U.S. says, "your programme is a threat, you open it for inspection." We say, "don't be discriminating." They say, "give us an assurance." We have given them an assurance that we are not engaged in the manufacture of nuclear weapons, that we are not conserving aid for this programme from any source. And I even told them that the question of a peaceful nuclear explosion is also not a foregone conclusion. When and if we attain the capability, we will take into account all the various factors. Let us wait and see what the Committee on Disarmament does on peaceful nuclear explosions.

I'm told that the three nuclear powers — the Soviet Union, the U.S. and the U.K. — have drafted a protocol on these nuclear explosions. And the other countries — Argentina, Brazil and others — said, "Why should only the nuclear weapons powers have the privilege of carrying out nuclear explosions? So we may have a regime for peaceful nuclear explosions and that is something in the future."

But we do not have a nuclear weapons programme. I challenged Mr. Vance (Mr. Cyrus Vance, former U.S. Secretary of State) and I challenge anybody today to produce any evidence. It's not enough to say, "you're engaged in this, you're suspected of this." You have so much intelligence capability. Produce some evidence — before us and the world — that we are engaged in manufacturing nuclear weapons. But if you charge us and accuse us and say we've got money from Col. Qadhafi, it is totally false. I said, "all right, if we got the money, produce some evidence."

So you know, they are making these accusations and I'm sorry to say that in India it is assumed we are engaged in manufacturing nuclear weapons. And, therefore, India must do it.

We're worried now that you're going to carry out some tests. If we don't say anything, it is again not to enter into a controversy. But what have you to fear?

And I can tell you categorically we're not engaged in the manufacture of nuclear weapons. About nuclear explosions, we shall see if and when we get the capability. We will find out what international regime is envisaged. And we have told you we're ready to talk to you to exchange mutual assurances if you want, let us agree to

reciprocal inspection — if you don't agree to international agreement. And I say, all right, even without inspection let us engage in a binding declaration not to manufacture nuclear weapons. What more can we do? Short of saying 'you come and inspect us and you will not let us inspect your facilities'.

Q: Nobody would make that demand, or take that unreasonable position.

A: Short of that what more you want us to do, we're ready to do.

Trade relations

Q: Thank you. Some disappointment has been expressed in India over the loss of momentum in the development of trade relations, cultural people-to-people contact, without assigning blame. Let us note the feeling that the inhibiting factors seem to have gained the upper hand. Naturally, people in India look to Pakistan to produce other results. How would you see that? Do you see any specific problems on that front?

A: There are some problems. Because you know we have a nascent industry and certain elements are worried about Indian competition. And we have engaged in a dialogue for a long time and there was a technical team to come from India. But the real difficulty is that there is nothing that India can buy from us, it seems. Except it's bought some fuel oil.

Therefore, this is the problem. But we don't think this should be made into

a political issue and a test of our willingness to continue with normalisation. I don't think that this should be brought in. It should be approached on its own merits. And on this, considerable discussion has taken place and there has been considerable meeting of minds. Our contention is that we have 412 items on the open list for imports. India has a very small list. So there are technical problems.

Cultural and other exchanges have taken place. How many visas, you know the number of people who are going and coming back. 15,000 visas are being issued by us and on your side, you have the figures, they are no less. There was some hitch about this, because India didn't give sufficient foreign exchange to its visitors to Pakistan.

There have been considerable cultural exchanges. These can all be done. But the point is that when the political climate becomes adverse, it has its effect on all that. So the first thing to do is to talk in terms of permanent peace between India and Pakistan.

Again I say you may rest assured there is no danger to India from Pakistan. That anything that we do to build our relationship with the U.S. naturally, we don't want the U.S. as an enemy. I mean, we can't but deal with the superpowers, but we do not want a close embrace.

Ram: Thank you, Mr. Foreign Minister, for responding to these questions in detail.

EDITORIAL SAYS FREEDOM IS NEEDED TO FIGHT ANTISTATE ELEMENTS

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 20 Mar 81 p 3

[Editorial: "Give Freedom to Friends and People Loyal to Pakistan"]

[Text] Just because the patriots of Pakistan are keeping quiet should not be taken to mean that they are weak. Should the integrity of Pakistan be threatened, they will not remain inactive. They love Pakistan above everything else. Politics comes later. These are the words of a distinguished tribal leader, Sardar Mir Taj Mohammad Khan Jamali, of Baluchistan, who said them in Quetta. He said that to meet the threat posed by the activities of the anti-Pakistani elements, all rightwing parties whose activities are banned have been holding talks and very soon will unite and form a common front against them. The unity that Mr Jamali mentions as being under consideration has also been given clear expression by Pir Sahib Pagara, who also spoke of talks regarding the establishment of such union.

The lawlessness and disturbances that took place after the grief-stricken victims of revenge established a front in Karachi and the conspiracy plot of the hijacking clearly unveiled its purpose provide all the justification necessary at present to effect the unity of the patriots of the country and the supporters of the ideology of Pakistan. This in itself is a satisfactory thing--that this need is not only felt but that necessary steps and talks are also taking place for its implementation. But freedom of thought and expression are also required to do this, and the ruling party should not further delay reviewing this freedom.

The enemies of freedom and of the solidarity of Pakistan are black thieves (in different colors and styles). Therefore, their way of action can spin around the axes of conspiracy, treachery and terror. So they have chosen to work underground, whereas Pakistan and its patriots, by their nature, are not like this, because loving your religion and country is not a crime that must be expressed and pursued in secrecy. It is a well-known duty that should only be performed in the open.

President Gen Zia-ul-Haq, after attending the welcoming ceremony for the freed hijacked hostages and crew members in Peshawar, told the press that Pakistan is an ideological country and the negation of this ideology should not be permitted. When and how this ban might be implemented, he did not say at that time. There can be no denying the fact that all those people working for the betterment of the state should be, within the bounds of law and ethics, be given a chance to discharge their duty. The uncertainty and terror that the antistate foreign culprits are trying to create, and which the president also referred to, can be effectively countered by patriotic Pakistanis. In this respect, the performance and promptness of the

administrative machinery is such that the hijackers have already struck a full blow and from that the details of their criminal records are now emerging, when they are already out of the reach of the law. Anyhow, with all the antistate activities that their comrades are involved in, besides activating a more active and responsible administration there is another basic need that those people in Pakistan who want to see neither events like those Afghanistan nor conditions like those in Iran should be kept well aware of--the determination and activities of the anti-Pakistan elements. It is an educational type of conscious activity that the patriotic quarters of the country can only perform under freedom of speech and thought. Enemies and traitors have undoubtedly already been unveiled, but to counteract the conspiratorial activities taking place outside the country, it is essential to gain the confidence and help of the sincere and devoted people of this country, and this can only be achieved by creating an environment of freedom, not suppression. The patriotic unity that Mr Jamali has referred to can also come into existence by including it in freedom of movement. This unity cannot take place by victimizing both the enemies and faithful under the same restrictions. They can also consider these restrictions as reflections on and lack of confidence in their sincerity and faith. This is food for thought for the president and his associates who are most accountable to the people through their control of the administration of the country.

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PAKISTANI COMMUNISTS, JOURNALISTS ATTEND SOVIET, OTHER RECEPTIONS

Lahore CHATAN in Urdu 23 Mar 81 p 27

[Article by N.R. from Islamabad: "The Presence of Pakistani Reds in the Functions of the Russian Embassy"]

[Text] Islamabad is the national capital, and so all the countries' embassies are located there. Because of this, there are always diplomatic receptions taking place. On occasions such as Independence Day, Defense Day and National Day, when foreign ambassadors are invited to a reception, people from Rawalpindi and Islamabad are also present. At certain diplomatic receptions, "special faces" are seen representing people not only from other walks of life but also lines of federal capital journalists who visit certain embassies late at night in quest of drinks. Certain busy "pretty faces" also seen at diplomatic receptions do not belong to a particular walk of life but are always there at every reception, making contacts with ambassadors, wherever drinks are served.

Dear readers! This week our topic of discussion is the journalists of Rawalpindi and Islamabad and the embassies. A few days ago, the news published in the paper unveiled some journalists of Rawalpindi and Islamabad who were arrested on their way home by the police because they were intoxicated. What happened was that about a week or so ago, a reception took place in the Russian embassy in connection with Defense Day. At that reception, many foreign diplomats were invited and a great number of Pakistani reds participated. There was also a group of journalists whose mecca is Moscow. Some journalists were intoxicated and when two of them were seen weaving along the Islamabad streets, the police arrested them. The Rawalpindi newspapers did not publish their names and so we will not, although they do not deserve any concessions. It is worth noting that although with the exception of the socialist block more or less all the countries including China did not participate in the Russian Defense Day reception because of the Russian invasion of Afghanistan, a great number of Pakistani reds did actively participate. Embassy vehicles were busy transporting communist invitees to and from the airport.

The 'wine loving; journalists' friends struggled to free them. Nevertheless, the government made it clear to them that no one is superior to or above the law. Talking to the newspaper correspondents in the School of the Army Association, President Zia said that every individual was equal in the eyes of the law; they may be journalists, but they deserve punishment if they break

the law. Now it has become known that they have been released. Their fellow journalists have also become careful. Now they will not dare to walk along the Islamabad streets while they are intoxicated. It is worth noting that a few months ago, the government of Pakistan issued a circular requesting that guests, especially Pakistani guests, not be served drinks at embassy receptions. Many countries conformed to that directive, but some embassies totally ignored it and by taking advantage of diplomatic concessions continued to serve wine. Social circles in Rawalpindi and Islamabad have brought these matters several times to the attention of the Pakistani government and have demanded strict action against the defaulters who, for the sake of wine, talk nonsense against Pakistan in front of the foreign ambassadors. The new federal cabinet has been formed and patriotic circles rightfully expect that necessary actions will be taken in this connection.

Faiz Ahmed Faiz's 70th anniversary was lavishly celebrated at the Hilton in Lahore. In imitation, Halqa-e-Arbab-e-Zoq [literary circle] also announced a celebration of Faiz's anniversary in Rawalpindi. The said Halqa-e-Arbab-e-Zoq has been using the auditorium of the Pakistan National Center for quite some time but was not allowed to use it for the Faiz anniversary; so the press club was elected for the ceremony. During that occasion, an employee of the Literary Academy was seen very actively involved. Prof Fateh Mohammed Malik presided over the ceremony. The guest of honor was Mrs S. Faiz. The communists had invited Mrs Faiz as the guest of honor to the Faiz anniversary celebration in Lahore, too. Dr Mohammad Ayub, Prof Sajjad Haider Malik, Prof Khuaja Masud and Sarmad Suhbai expressed their faith in Faiz. Prof Khuaja Masud is a strange character. The news that he published said: "On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the great poet of the present day, Mr Faiz Ahmed Faiz, a memorial celebration was held at the local press club under the management of Halqa-e-Arbab-e-Zoq." The said newspaper reporter, mentioning Faiz as the great poet of the present and describing the gathering of a few people for a memorial celebration, does not make it known whom he wants to please. In reference to the so-called memorial celebration, let me bring something to the attention of the government. While celebrating Faiz Day, vehicles of the Pakistan National Council of Arts were busy transporting people to the gathering. High officials of the council were present at the airport to receive Mrs S. Faiz.

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CSO: 4203/56

PAPER WONDERS IF VIOLENCE IS BEING ACCEPTED AS NORMAL

Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 13 Mar 81 p 5

[Editorial: "What Is Happening?"]

[Text] At a time when all the various sections in the country are condemning the air pirates and praying for the safety and security of the hostages, certain quarters inside the country are preaching violence and are trying to prove that the atrocities committed on the hostages conform to the normal everyday conditions of life in Pakistan. We have before us an agenda of the subjects for debate at the NED Engineering College in Karachi. The subject for debate on Wednesday, 18 March, at 10 am is, "Violence Is the Only Solution." The same subject will be debated in Baluchi on Thursday, 19 March, at 10 am. On Sunday, 22 March, at 10 am, the subject debated in Urdu will be "We Are All Hostages." A mere glance at these subjects is enough to point out that the main idea behind these debates is to pave the way for violence and to organize public opinion to favor violence. It is said that the atrocities that the hostages were subjected to were not an out of the ordinary occurrence but a condition of everyday life that we are all undergoing. Therefore, it should not be taken that seriously. We want to know if the preaching of violence is being declared just. In no society in the world, whatever its ideologies and beliefs are, is the preaching of violence permitted. If it was lawful today, then tomorrow looting, mugging, murder and kidnaping would also be declared lawful and schools would open for professional training in these fields. After all, who are these people who are providing all the opportunities to a selected group practicing violence? Will the governor of Sind feel it necessary to attend to it?

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CSO: 4203/55

MOSCOW SENDS RED GREETINGS TO SOCIALIST AGENTS IN PAKISTAN

Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 13 Mar 81 p 10

[Article by staff reporter concerning a letter addressed to former General Secretary of Karachi University Rafiq Patel from Lumumba University]

[Text] Circulation of foreign ideology and support for the influence of a superpower is openly pursued in educational institutions throughout the country. In this respect, student union members are being instigated to bring about communist revolutions and to follow the path of Afghanistan. Recently, literature from a superpower conveying red greetings was circulated among communist agents.

In this context, Mr Rafiq Patel, former general secretary of Karachi University and a so-called progressive, received a message from Patrice Lumumba University in Moscow that says: "Socialist countries' success in economic and political fields, and the national peoples' revolution in the neighboring country of Afghanistan, gave new life to the struggle of the depressed people of Pakistan. We . . . look with respect to the joint struggle of the progressive unions. We understand that the working peoples' front to oppose imperialism and achieve democracy is the most important need of the time." It is worth noting here that Patrice Lumumba University is quite famous for providing a communist education for Asian students from backward countries through scholarships that inspire revolution.

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CSO: 4203/55

CRIMINALS FROM INFLUENTIAL FAMILIES SAID TO GET SPECIAL TREATMENT

Lahore CHATAN in Urdu 13 Apr 81 pp 6,39

[Article by Tanweer Shahid: "Why Do Criminals Belonging to Influential Families Escape Punishment?"]

[Text] It is neither an undeserved compliment or flattery for a person in authority nor a desire to overpraise or placate the current government, but it is a fact to say that since attaining power, President Gen Zia-ul-Haq has taken some steps on political and social levels to eradicate hooliganism in Pakistan. This achievement is undoubtedly praiseworthy. So far, those convicted murderers who have been executed include former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Ghias-ud-Din, alias Ghiasa, and two of his accomplices, Wajid, alias Pappu, and Naeem Akhtar Shah and various other people. When there was a delay in carrying out the death sentence against the former prime minister, people generally felt that as some big powers and friendly countries had recommended mercy for him, he would not be executed by President Zia. Despite external and internal pressure, however, he did carry out Bhutto's execution. The current government has imposed death sentences against several people for serious crimes. The most recent incident against acts of terrorism, murder and gang robbery involves death sentences for notorious criminals Ghias-ud-Din, alias Ghiasa; Wajid, alias Pappu; and Naeem Akhtar Shah. All three have attained their final destiny. Another criminal member of this gang, Arshad Mahmud, alias Bhola, has also been arrested, and he too is awaiting his end.

Criminals should be punished for their crimes and from this viewpoint these are undoubtedly praiseworthy steps. At this stage, however, many questions of the common people remain unanswered. There are rumors among the people that the government executes only those people who are pursued personally by some high-ranking officials and who are not supported by any strong recommendation that could rescue them from the gallows. According to the people, there is hardly an example in the history of Pakistan when a person of any influential family has been punished for murder. Recently, a high-ranking official's son was arrested for car theft. The comments made by the police in this connection would never have been expected from a responsible institution. Referring to this case, the police said that he is a "spoiled child" of an influential family.

The people involved in the Shabnum case have committed more serious crimes than Ghias-ud-Din and his accomplices. The court ordered death sentences for them, but they are still alive. Why? The perception of the people in this case is

that our spoiled officials play a dual role in the enforcement of law and this perception could be correct.

It is essential to point out here that it is not easy to run the affairs of even a single house. Running a country with a population of about 80 million, while taking good care of its organization and administration based on justice, is much more difficult. The writer does not believe that the responsibility of the delay in the Shabnum case lies solely on the head of state. Surely, this situation is proof of the incapability and moral weakness of the high-ranking officials. It is worthwhile noting here that in an Islamic social structure, the responsibility for injustice or its results after all have to be accepted by the people in authority, especially the head of state. History bears witness that usually the aides and assistants to the head of state are at fault, but it is the head who falls prey to the misunderstandings and suspicions of the people. Hazrat Omar's well-known proverb, which can actually be regarded as the cornerstone of the Islamic governmental structure, is that terror, murder and dacoitism taking place anywhere in the country will have to be answerable by the ruler of the time. Hazrat Omar said, "Even if a baby goat dies of hunger on the banks of Furat River, I swear that God will question Omar as to why it happened."

Therefore, we respectfully request of our president that he investigate those high-ranking officials who are accused of criminal negligence as to why, despite the government's sentence of death, the accused in the Shabnum case have not yet met their fate, whereas Ghiasa and his companions were hanged instantaneously? After all, what is the reason behind this discrimination and criminal negligence?

According to the Islamic justice, Hazrat Ali and the Jews deserve equal treatment and according to the law both parties are liable to conviction if proven guilty. The Holy Prophet rejected the recommendation of his close disciples for Fatima, a woman belonging to a respectable Quraish family of Mecca, and her hands were severed. The Holy Prophet said that he would have ordered the same punishment had his own daughter Fatima committed theft. Therefore, when a criminal is convicted, why is there discrimination between rich and poor and high and low people in the society? Why are the people of high society and capitalists not duly punished for their crimes?

There is a general perception that people of high society avoid law enforcement by dint of their influence and wealth. On the other hand, criminals belonging to a low class or who are unable to approach higher authorities are punished.

This does not mean that attention should be drawn only to the Shabnum case. It is to point out a comprehensive principle. The people involved in the above-mentioned case were from influential and wealthy families. Therefore, there is a general feeling that if Shabnum forgave those people, there were motives behind it that compelled her to do so. The people who asked Shabnum for mercy (or, as it is generally felt, who put pressure on her) were influential people. Thus, an oppressed woman was forced to forgive them. If the criminals of the Shabnum robbery case were from ordinary families and she had granted them mercy, the situation would have been completely different. Therefore, it is not easy

to shed misconceptions caused by this situation. The manner in which the newspapers gave publicity to and advertised the death sentences of Ghiasa and his accomplices is also saddening. Was it not agonizing to see the frightful pictures of the hanged bodies displayed on the front pages of the newspapers? The grief of the common people is that our newspapers did unveil their horrible crimes and gave detailed information about their acts of terrorism and looting, but they failed to tell the public who was responsible for turning a school teacher and educated youths of decent families into murders and dacoits? What were the motives and factors on the basis of which civilized citizens of Pakistan acquired the role of dangerous criminals? Alas! Our newspapers had also pointed out those sinister factors of society that compel youths to commit crimes. The public's question is that after all, who were the criminal and evil-minded people who diverted them towards such terrible crimes against society? What were oppressions and deprivations that gave birth to animosity and revenge in their hearts against the society? It was essential to emphasize these factors, too. Alas! Nobody has ventured to explore the motives that caused these decent youths to be pushed into the dark alleys of crime. If an investigation is made in this connection, certainly there will be some conspicuous individuals who deserve much more punishment than Ghiasa and his accomplices. Will the law enforcement authorities pay heed to this?

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CSU: 4203/67

INCREASES IN PRICE OF ESSENTIAL GOODS REPORTED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 16 Apr 81 pp 10, 11

[Article by M.A. Kamran]

[Text]

DESPITE administrative measures to keep the prices of essential goods under check, certain items continued their upward march while some showed stability.

According to figures officially available from the Punjab Bureau of Statistics for March 30, rock salt (crushed) had gone up by 25 per cent as compared to the fourth week of February. It was being sold for Rs. 1.25 per kilo. Shakkar and gur had also gone up by 5.3 and 6.7 per cent, respectively, during the period under review. Shakkar was priced at Rs. 5 per kg and gur at Rs. 4 per kg. Among pulses, masoor (whole) had shot up by 16.8 per cent and was selling at Rs. 7 per kg and mash (split, unwashed) had gone up by 2.9 per cent.

Similarly, eggs shot up by 30.4 per cent and were available at Rs. 7.50 per dozen against Rs. 5.75 per dozen in the last week of February. Potatoes were up by 50 per cent, spinach by 33.3 per cent, peas by 77.8 per cent, carrots 50 per cent, brinjal (round) 33.3 per cent, radishes by 50 per cent and cauliflowers by 100 per cent.

Against this, wheat atta (bag) went down by 2 per cent, desi ghee by 2.9 per cent, grams by 7.7 per cent, gram dal by 13.3 per cent (but it was scarcely available), moong (split, unwashed) 1.5 per cent, sugar desi by 20 per cent, onions by 25 per cent and tomatoes by 11.1 per cent during the same period.

Record increase

Over a year (March 1980 to March 1981), wheat atta (loose) went up by 2.9 per cent, maida by 6.1 per cent, rawa and suji by 4.2 per cent, desi ghee by 10 per cent, butter (Nurpur) by 26.7 per cent and 18.8 per cent respectively, for packing of 200 and 100 grams, rice Basmati by 20 % rice broken by 16.7 per cent, grams by 140 per cent, gram dal by 180 per cent, dana (cattle feed) by 122.2 per cent, masoor (whole) 40 per cent, masoor dal by 75 per cent, mash (whole) by 16.7 per cent, mash (split, unwashed) by 33.3 per cent, mash (split, washed) by 45.4 per cent, moog (whole) by 9 per cent, moong (split, unwashed) by 23.8 per cent,

moong (split, washed) by 27.3 per cent, rock salt (crushed) by 25 per cent, double roti by 33.3 per cent, chicken meat by 14.3 per cent, mutton by 20 per cent, beef by 25 per cent, milk by 16.7 per cent, potatoes by 200 per cent, spinach by 60 per cent, carrots by 27.1 per cent, radishes by 20 per cent, cauliflowers by 77.8 per cent, kerosene oil by 38.9 per cent per bottle and 36.4 per cent per litre.

During this period, maize went down by 25.6 per cent, sugar down by 33.3 per cent, shahkar by 27.9 per cent, gur by 33.3 per cent, turnips by 15.3 per cent, tomatoes by 28.1 per cent and brinjal (round) by 2.9 per cent.

The prices of mutton and beef stabilised at Rs. 22 to 24 per kg and Rs. 9 to 10 per kg. The controlled price for mutton was Rs. 18 per kg that of beef Rs. 9. Chicken was sold at Rs. 24 to Rs. 32 per kg and fried fish was priced at Rs. 32 per kg and raw fish was also being sold at Rs. 12 to Rs. 16 per kg.

Milk prices also rose in some areas of Lahore from Rs. 3.50 to Rs. 4 per kg on the pretext of cattle feed prices having gone up.

BRIEFS

TERRORIST RECRUITING CENTERS — Government authorities have started working to bring to task recruiting centers that train Pakistanis in subversive and terrorist activities. The authorities are gathering the necessary information. According to reliable sources, the government has been informed about some recruiting centers responsible for training people in subversive activities in the country. In those centers, Pakistanis were being sent abroad on the pretext of taking jobs. In this respect, facts are being gathered about the rest of the recruiting agencies, too, so that it can be proven that Pakistanis were sent to an African country specifically to be trained in subversive activities and so that the necessary action can be taken against recruiting agencies that recruit people for subversive activities. [Text] [Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 25 Mar 81 p 1] 9778

4203/56

OPPOSITION BLOCS FORMING COALITION

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 1 May 81 pp 1, 2

[Article by Mel Parale and David C. Borje]

[Text]

A NEW umbrella organization of opposition groups which do not share the ideals of the United Democratic Opposition is now being formed to field a common candidate who could give President Marcos a good fight in the June 16 presidential polls.

About 100 opposition leaders supporting the movement will convene in Cebu City on Sunday to work out an agreement.

Prime movers met in an urgent session yesterday in Manila and came up with provisional general principles as starting point for the envisioned political compact.

ASSEMBLYMEN Filemon L. Fernandez, one of those present in the Manila meeting, said the Cebu convention on Sunday may also pave the way for the reunification of the warring factions of Puyon Bisaya.

Convention organizers said elements identified with other opposition groups - notably the Bicol Saro, Nacionalista Party, Mindanao Alliance and the Concerned Citizens Aggrupation - were set to join the convention.

Andres Corominas, head of the Cebu United Opposition, said a search is on for a common candidate

to be drafted by the emerging opposition union to oppose the President in the polls.

Organizers of the movement expressed optimism that they will find the "worthy candidate" before the nomination deadline is over. Under the law, political groups have until May 16 to nominate their candidates.

...

THE CEBU convention is expected to be capped by the election of a new set of officers of the strife-torn Puyon Bisaya, an event regarded by observers as a prelude to the Puyon reunification and mobilization for the polls.

Vying for the Puyon overall leadership were Batasan Minority Floorleader Mariano R. Logarta, Assemblyman Alfonso N. Corominas Jr. and Hilario Davide Jr., insiders said.

Former Con-Con Delegate Casimiro Madarang Jr., Puyon Bisaya chairman, signified intention to stay away from the race.

...

AT THE Commission on Elections, the ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipunan beat five other political parties yesterday in the contest for submission of complete evidence for accreditation by the Commission on Elections in the June 16 presidential elections.

Under Batas Pambansa Blg. 126

(former Cabinet Bill No. 44), approved by President Marcos the other day, only two political parties or groups shall be

accredited in accordance with certain rules embodied in the law.

Because the KBL petition appeared to be supported by evidence tending to show that the party possesses all the relevant factors and standard for accreditation, the Comelec is expected to rule favorably on the KBL petition not later than Monday.

Chairman Vicente M. Santiago Jr. said the poll body, under the law, is mandated to decide any petition for accreditation within three days from the submission of the case for resolution. The three-day period ends on Monday.

...

AT THE HEARING yesterday conducted by the Comelec en banc, the five other political parties - the Nacionalista Party, Puyon Bisaya, Bicol Saro, Federal Party of the Philippines and the Sovereign Citizens Party - asked and were granted until Monday to submit documentary evidence for accreditation in compliance with the law.

During the hearing, Commissioners Luis L. Lardizabal and Jaime Opinion questioned the capability of the Sovereign Citizens Party to conduct a nationwide drive.

Opinion remarked that the founder, president and presidential bet of the Sovereign Citizens Party, Lucio Ebrahim Hingpit, won only 6,272 votes out of the 7,759,460 votes cast or .80 percent for the Batasang Pambansa seat in the April 1978 election in Region 10 (Northern Mindanao).

VIRATA REPORTEDLY FIRST CHOICE FOR PRIME MINISTER

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 9 May 81 pp 1,6

[Text] Finance Minister Cesar E. A. Virata appears to be the first choice of President Marcos as Prime Minister if the President wins the June 16 elections under the new semi-parliamentary setup.

The possible nomination of Virata was revealed by the President in an interview with ASIaweek, wherein he said that Virata is the probable choice as chairman of the Executive Committee, a constitutional body that assists the President in running the government.

Virata is now chairman of the Cabinet Standing Committee, which was created by the President not only to assist him in the exercise of his executive powers but also to train his successor.

The President earlier said the present members of the Cabinet Standing Committee will automatically be members of the Executive Committee. Aside from Virata, the Cabinet Standing Committee is composed of Industry Minister Roberto Ongpin, defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, Local Government Minister Jose Rono, Economic Planning Minister Gerardo Sicat and Budget Minister Manuel Alba.

"He (Virata) and the existing members of the Standing Committee will be the ones running the government after I have taken my oath, if I win the election. And that would be after June 30," the President told ASIaweek.

The Prime Minister, under one of the constitutional amendments approved in the April 7 plebiscite, shares the executive functions with the President and is head of the Executive Committee.

The President said if he is reelected he will train second and third echelon leaders through the Executive Committee.

"The first mission is to train the second and third echelons of leaders--younger than my generation--while training a group that can immediately take over if, God forbid, anything untoward happens to me," he said.

"These leaders have to learn to be both wise and practical. They have to be politicians as well as technocrats. They have to be wordly as well as fresh and vital. This I consider of primary importance. There must be leaders who

are acceptable to the people, who understand the New Society program, who are incorruptible and hardworking," the President said.

"The Technocrats have to learn to be pragmatic and acquire a common touch," the President said. He noted that Finance Minister Cesar Virata and Central Bank Governor Jaime Laya "are not backslappers. 'They will have to learn,'" the President said.

He added that "I would like Education Minister O. D. Corpuz to enter politics and participate in developing new leaders."

He said he would like "to draw leaders from the academic circle, and executives from the private sector."

Other points raised by the President during the interview:

--On the opposition boycott: "That's their privilege." But the question that now arises is a constitutional one: Under the Constitution and the Election Code one has to participate in this election in order to be accredited--for 1984 and subsequent elections. How do they get official candidates on a block-voting system, on a regional basis, without accreditation? They will now come before the Batasang Pambansa and ask for special privilege."

The President observed that "apparently, they (the opposition) are now trying to agree to put up a token Nacionalista candidate. If the candidate doesn't get 10 percent (of the votes cast), they will appeal to the Comelec and to the Batasan: 'You must have an opposition party, so you might as well give (the job) to us.' This seems to be the game plan."

ASIaweek noted that "in the Chief Executive's view, the opposition's attitude (to boycott) is attributable to rather more basic instincts: fear of losing. Unido's refusal to field a candidate, he claims, is less a moral exercise than an acknowledgement of public opinion surveys that suggest the Opposition's strongest candidate (apparently ex-Senator Salvador Laurel) would get no more than 12 percent of the votes." Marcos said he would get at least 57 percent of the votes.

--On granting general amnesty to all detainees: "It could be disastrous. We'd have to give amnesty to (Communist Party chairman) Jose Maria Sison, to (New People's Army) Commander Dante, to the members of the Communist Party central committee, to those guilty of rape, murder, things like that. I am not ready to give a general amnesty because there are many members of our society who would feel offended if I were to do so."

--On Former Sen. Benigno Aquino Jr. if he decides to return from the US: "He has to answer to the courts. He's already beyond my jurisdiction. I don't know exactly what the courts will do with him. The Supreme Court directed that his case be returned to the military tribunal. I cannot disregard that order."

The President added: "I personally have nothing against him (Ninoy). I'm willing to give him a chance to lead a normal life. As you know, I offered his conditional amnesty and conditional pardon. But he has hemmed and hawed."

--On the Mindanao problem "We are trying to get a conference going again with Nur Misuari (the MNLF chieftain) through the Islamic Conference."

--On a supposed visit to the United States this year: "I don't know. I haven't been invited. I have not tried to wangle an invitation."

He described the US-Philippines relations as "mutually beneficial and cooperative." "There's an atmosphere of mutual respect. The Americans understand us much better now than they did before."

CSO: 4220

POWER RIVALRY SPLITS NPA, SAYS MILITARY

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 1 May 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] Camp Olivas, Pampanga, April 30--A rift within the ranks of New People's Army was bared here today by a ranking constabulary official.

Brig. Gen. Vicente Eduardo, PC region 3 commander, said in a press briefing that Rodolfo Salas, alias Commander Bilog, is splitting from the Communist Party of the Philippines.

Eduardo, quoting intelligence sources, told newsmen that Salas was disgruntled over the appointment of Juanito Rivera, alias Commander Juaning, to the top post vacated by captured dissident leader Bernabe Buscayno, alias Commander Dante.

Eduardo said Rivera, the NPA field commander for Tarlac, is senior in the rankings, and Salas is known to be the more ideologue and appropriate replacement for Commander Dante. Salas was third year engineering student of the University of the Philippines before he joined the NPA movement.

Salas, a native of Mexico, this province, was reported to be moving about in some western towns of this province and was believed to be meeting with other dissidents to back him in the power struggle.

Eduardo said the power struggle sort of toppled Horacio Morales, a former professor at the Development Academy of the Philippines who was reported to have been aspiring for chairmanship of the CPP.

Earlier, Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile disclosed that Rafael Baylosis, 35, a lawyer and former student leader of the University of the Philippines, recently took over as head of the CCP.

The revamp in the CPP and NPA hierarchy has caused a split in the loyalties of the rank and file of the two organizations according to Eduardo.--MS

CSO: 4120

MARCOS ASSURES ASSISTANCE TO NIGERIA

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 23 Apr 81 p 6

[Text] President Marcos, assured yesterday the government of Nigeria that the Philippines is ready to extend agricultural technology expertise to Nigeria.

The President gave the assurance to Nigerian Agriculture Minister Ibrahim Gusau, who called on the President.

The Nigerian Minister is leading a mission exploring areas of cooperation in agriculture, particularly rice production, storage, milling and marketing, and fish farming.

Minister Gusau said he was impressed by the strides made by the Philippines in agricultural production, and would like to invite agricultural technicians to help improve his country's agricultural production.

The President, briefed Minister Gusau on Masagana 99, Biyaya ng Dagat, Maisan ng Bayan, fresh and brackish water fishing, supervised credit, and blue farming or sea farming.

The Nigeria delegation included Agriculture Director O. Awoyemi, Fisheries Director B. Dada, Livestocks Director Dr J. David West, Mrs G. Samorin. E. U. Aklang and E. A. Onyiri, charge d'affaires and second secretary, respectively, of the Nigerian embassy.

Present during their call were Agriculture Minister Arturo R. Tanco, Natural Resources Minister Jose Leido Jr., Deputy Agriculture Minister Orlando J. Sacay, and Assistant Agriculture Minister Salvador Escudero III.

Later, the President also received Knut Hammarsjold, director-general of the International Air Transport Association (IATA), who paid his respects and exchanged views on problems facing the air transportation industry. He was accompanied by Philippine Air Lines President Roman Cruz Jr.

Also received by the President was Richard Thomas, president of the First National Bank of Chicago, who informed the President of the increasing investments of his company particularly in copper mining and in the Filipino contracts in road-building in Iraq. Thomas was accompanied by Panfilo Domingo, president of the Philippine National Bank, and Rodolfo Cuenca, president of the Construction Development Corp. of the Philippines.

MORO NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT MEMBERS SURRENDER

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 9 May 81 pp 1, 14

[Text] Zamboanga City, May 8--Forty-five leaders of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) from eight provinces in Southern Philippines have surrendered.

They are scheduled to meet with President Marcos and the First Lady of Malacanang tomorrow.

Twenty-five of the surrenderers are from Jolo, Sulu, Basilan, Zamboanga del Sur, Zamboanga del Norte and Tawi-Tawi, while 20 are from Maguindanao and Lanao del Sur.

The surrenderers were headed by "Kumander" Barawir Baranga, chairman of Patikul MNLF Revolutionary command. Barawir headed the revolutionary command after "Kumander" Usman Sali escaped from government troops after his band massacred Brig. Gen. Teodulfo Bautista and his 34 officers and men at Patikul on Oct. 10, 1977.

Among those who surrendered were three foreign-trained MNLF commanders. They are Jelene Janggay, MNLF overall commander in Siocon, Zamboanga del Norte; Aniaman Tanajalan, MNLF chief of the Mindanao Central Intelligence unit and chairman for mass media for the entire province of Basilan; and Kumander Sultan, who headed MNLF group in Lanao del Sur.

The group has a total armed followers of 794. They surrendered 501 assorted high-powered firearms and thousands of ammunition.

In an interview, the MNLF surrenderers said they decided to return to the fold of the law because they were convinced by the tangible accomplishments of the government and its effort to rehabilitate their social and economic conditions.

The surrenderers also said they came to know that the top MNLF leaders who now live in style and comfort abroad have deceived them.

"We now want to live a peaceful life and be useful citizens again," the MNLF commanders added.--Roy C. Sinfuego

POSSIBLE OIL FIND REPORTED OFF NORTHWEST PALAWAN

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 12 May 81 p 10

[Article by Samuel V. Senoren: "Cities Service Excited Over Tara-1 Drilling Off Palawan"]

[Text]

PHILIPPINE Cities Service Inc. may have struck oil in a well called Tara-1 off Northwest Palawan, industry sources disclosed yesterday.

Tara is located in a cluster of oil bearing reefal structures that include Pandan, Matinloc, Cadiao and Libro. It is closest to Libro which flowed 1,100 barrels of oil per day in July last year.

According to sources, Cities Service drillers were excited about a new find because of strong indications of an oil presence as the well went to its final depth of 7,107 ft.

Confirmation of the new strike was to have been made over the weekend when drillers were scheduled to conduct a drill stem test (DST). The first DST however was not successful due to some technical difficulties.

Cities Service drillers are now preparing to conduct a retest of the

first DST.

...

THE DST will determine the properties of the rocks penetrated by the drill bit. Succeeding DSTs would enable to determine the flow rate and quality of newly discovered oil.

Sources say an oil discovery in Tara is not surprising since the well is still in an area that's considered an oil province stretching for about 50 kms. nearly parallel to coast of Palawan.

Tara is being drilled by a consortium of oil exploration companies led by Cities Service and composed of Basic Petroleum, Landoil Resources, Oriental Petroleum, Philippine Overseas Drilling and Husky Oil of Canada.

Hopefully, it could become the first oil find for the year. Last year, exploration companies made three discoveries. These were Pandan-1,

Libro-1 and S. Pandan-1 which were all drilled by Cities Service.

The three oil discovery wells were among 21 wells drilled by service contractors throughout 1980.

...

THIS year, service contractors have committed to drill a total of 27 wells - seven onshore and 20 offshore.

Aside from Tara, three other wells are in various stages of drilling operations. They are:

- Caverna-1 - Amoco has resumed drilling and the well has reached a depth of 2,750 ft.

- Cowrie-1 - Total exploration drilled down to a depth of 4,477 ft. Preparations are underway to perform a DST to fully evaluate the engineering properties of the rocks penetrated. Target depth is 5,500 ft. although total may decide to drill further down.

- Galoo-1 - Cities Service has resumed drilling after conducting a suite of wireline logs. The well is now at 8,070 ft. out of a target depth of 12,500 ft.

STATUS OF MEDICAID PROGRAM FOR INDIGENTS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 9 May 81 pp 1,6

[Text]

TACLOBAN CITY, May 8 - The innovative Kahusugan sa Bagong Lipunan medical aid project has grown nationwide, the First Lady and Human Settlements Minister Imelda R. Marcos was informed here today.

Mrs. Marcos flew here this morning for a visit to this city and her hometown Tolosa. She was welcomed by local officials and civic leaders upon her arrival.

In a progress report, the First Lady was informed that starting with 43 MARCOS clinics in Metro Manila, the project now has 390 mobile teams in all parts of the country. MARCOS stands for Medical Assistance for the Rural Communities and Other Sectors.

...

THE PROJECT was launched last May 1 on the occasion of the First Couple's 27th wedding anniversary. It provides free medical treatment and medicine for the poor. President Marcos has set aside P150 million for the program.

The report said more than 2,000

doctors and nurses and 7,000 support staff have volunteered their services for the success of the project which delivers one of the 11 basic needs of man.

The MARCOS clinic in Tacloban City treated more than 489 people during its opening yesterday. Estimates are that it will exceed that number today, as more people lined up for treatment and free medicine.

...

MARCOS clinics are also operating in the towns of Palo, Tanawan, Tolosa and Maras-Baras in Tacloban.

Upon her arrival at the airport, Mrs. Marcos proceeded directly to downtown Tacloban to inspect the progress of work on the Shrine of the Sto. Nino Heritage Museum which is nearing completion. The shrine and the imposing People's Center and Library for Leyte and Samar nearby will be inaugurated soon.

From Tacloban, Mrs. Marcos motored to her hometown Tolosa. Her arrival was cause for rejoicing by the 15,000 residents who are celebrating their town's fiesta. The

First Lady is the town's most illustrious daughter.

...

MRS. MARCOS, who maintains a house in barrio Olot near the town proper, prayed in the town church and later mingled with her townmates in a seaside pavilion.

She also visited the memorial grounds of the Romualdez family where her parents, a brother and a stillborn son are buried.

The hermano mayor of this year's celebration, in honor of St. Michael Archangel, is Daniel Andrew Gomez Romualdez, a son of Gov. Benjamin Romualdez.

...

TOLOSA, named after the Spanish town of Toulouse, became the base of American liberation forces after the Battle of Leyte Gulf in World War II.

It was also in the town's barrio Tanghas that the famed American composer Irving Berlin first presented his famous composition "Heaven Watch the Philippines" to a Filipino-American audience led by the late President Sergio Osmena, Sr.

Mainly through the efforts of the late Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, and later of the First Lady and Governor Romualdez, Tolosa has become a model community in Leyte, winning prizes in cleanliness, beautification, and community development contests.

GOVERNMENT SPEEDS UP MINDANAO DEVELOPMENT

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 2 May 81 p 2

[Article by Norbi Edding]

[Text]

THE GOVERNMENT believes that the Mindanao problem cannot be solved by using guns, bullets and grenades but by operating tractors and road graders and setting up factories.

It believes that lasting peace can be attained in strife-torn Southern Philippines if its people are given not just the promise but the reality of a better life.

And that is why the government is undertaking a massive social and economic development program in the South which is being administered and supervised by the Southern Philippines Development Authority.

...

ACTUALLY, the government had been carrying out a development program in Southern Philippines even before trouble broke out shortly after the declaration of martial law.

Many of the development projects had to be suspended because of the fighting but since the ceasefire declared in December 1977 in accordance with the Tripoli Agreement, these projects have been resumed.

The Southern Philippines Development Authority, which is supervising these projects, was created on April 22, 1975. At that time it was known as the Southern Philippines Development Administration. Presidential Decree No. 1703, issued on July 26, 1980, revised the SPDA charter and changed the word "Administration" to "Authority."

An indication of the importance being given by the government to SPDA is the fact that no less than the First Lady, Imelda Romualdez Marcos, was appointed by the President as its chairman.

...

THE SPDA has a capital stock of P500 million and a P2-million yearly outlay for operating expenses.

The SPDA took over the functions of four agencies which were abolished: the Mindanao Development Authority (MDA), the Commission on National Integration (CNI), the Presidential Task Force for the Reconstruction and Development of Mindanao (PTRAD) and the Special Program of Assistance for the Rehabilitation of Evacuees (SPARE).

...

THE REASONS for the creation of the SPDA are:

- To hasten the balanced growth of Southern Philippines and thus promote national economic, social and political stability.

- To sustain the development of the region, relying heavily on the capability of the people in the area to participate in the development effort.

- To make the region more responsive to national plans and policies within the context of national solidarity.

- To serve as the government agency responsible for starting and carrying out development projects in Southern Philippines.

- To promote lasting peace in Southern Philippines through a development program which would make the fullest use of resources, open new jobs, increase business and technical efforts and supplement the efforts of the private sector.

To these ends, the SPDA is undertaking development and business projects in agriculture, power, infrastructure, energy, public utilities, land development, manufacturing, exploration, use of natural resources and other fields and is making investments in various ventures.

FRG GRANTS LOAN FOR HOUSING PROGRAM

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 9 May 81 p 2

[Text]

THE GOVERNMENT'S low-cost housing program recently received a timely boost with the granting of a loan amounting to P44.5 million by the West German government.

Most of the amount will go to the National Housing Authority's Dagat-Dagatan II A/B project in Tondo.

Over 3,000 squatter families are beneficiaries of the project which is principally aimed to solving the displacement to be created by the establishment of the Manila International Port project in the area.

The loan, which was formalized by Finance Minister Cesar Virata in Frankfurt, West Germany, was extended through the Kreditanstalt fuer Wiederaufbau (KfW), the West German government's principal development finance agency, with the National Housing Authority as project proponent.

GAUDENCIO TOBIAS, NHA general manager, said that the KfW loan to the Philippine government is a significant development in the country's housing program as undertaken by the First Lady and Human Settlements Minister Imelda R. Marcos since it marks the recognition and acceptability of the country's low-cost housing programs by international finance institutions outside of the World Bank, the traditional fund source.

Tobias also said that the West German government's assistance is founded on socially-oriented concessional terms which carry a 2 percent per annum interest only.

Total repayment period is 30 years and will be completed in year 2011.

...

MEANWHILE, the Ministry of Public Highways said yesterday that it has embarked on a P345-million infrastructure program in the Visayas and Mindanao that includes farm and road projects.

Highways Minister Jesus Hipolito said part of the money for the projects came from the Asian Development Bank which gave a \$30-million loan to the government.

Hipolito said that all national roads in the islands of Panay, Palawan, Masbate, Marinduque, Tablas and Mindanao will be widened and asphalted under the project.

Construction starts next year and will be completed in two years, he added. A total of 1,201 kilometers of asphalted major and secondary roads in these areas will be improved, Hipolito said.

Feeder roads, irrigation systems and bridges in Mindanao and Visayas region will also be put up by the MPH to help farmers increase the harvest, he said.

BANKS PLEDGE 1 BILLION ₱ TO HOUSING PROGRAM

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 7 May 81 p 6

[Text]

THE FIRST LADY and Human Settlements Minister, Imelda Romualdez Marcos, paid tribute Tuesday to the social conscience of Filipino businessmen which she said has provided the breakthrough in the solution of the once formidable housing problem.

The First Lady made the observation in a speech at commitment ceremonies marking the Chamber of Thrift Banks' participation in the government's social housing program, held at the Philippine International Convention Center.

Mrs. Marcos said the decision of the private sector, through the Chamber of Thrift Banks, to participate in the government's housing program has given the people, particularly those in the low-income groups, an opportunity to own homes.

SHE SAID: "This is the substance of your commitment to provide up to one billion pesos for the secondary mortgage market through the Bahayan certificates program. With your one billion combined funds backing up primary mortgages, housing credit becomes easier to obtain at affordable interest rates and with the stretched out repayment schedules that sufficiently bring down amortization rates to the reach of the workers."

Under the agreement, the Chamber of Thrift Banks, composed of the Development Bank of the Philippines, Savings Bank and the Savings and Loan Bank, agreed to buy P1.1-B worth of Bahayan Mortgage Certificate of Participation from the National Housing Mortgage and Finance Corp., an agency of the Ministry of Human Settlements.

CSO: 4220

GROWTH OF FOOD, FISH PRODUCTION NOTED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 29 Apr 81 p 16

[Text]

In the past decade, the economic face of the country has improved significantly, as the major industries constituting the Philippines' Agricultural and Fishing Resources have shown remarkable changes.

Since 1974, the combined productions of food crops and fish have grown at an annual rate of 5.3%, resulting in the country's self-sufficiency in rice as of 1975, and the Philippines' becoming a rice exporter in 1978, where previously the Philippines had been importing rice. This reversal was made possible through the support given these industries by government and private financing and technological institutions.

The Philippine Sugar Industry has generated millions of dollars in earnings, thus contributing to the National Treasury through the exportation of more than half of the industry's annual production to the world market. Credit for this development is due the banking institutions, both private and governmental, which have totally subsidized the

sugar industry.

The Coconut Industry has earned over a billion dollars in the past year as the leading supplier of coconut products in the world market, making the Philippines the top foreign exchange earner for the fourth consecutive year.

After its subsidy was scrapped in 1973, the Virginia Tobacco Industry today subsists on its own, generating some P2 billion annually. It employs 12,000 people while 14,000 more are engaged in planting, selling and re-drying

During the decade of the Seventies, the volume of fisheries production had an annual growth rate of 5.4%. Keeping up with the developments in agriculture, the fisheries production continues with an annual growth rate of 22.1%.

The Philippine Fertilizer Industry has played a major role in the country's food production programs, providing the agricultural sector with the required input to improve the productivity of the soil and to maximize farm production

CSO: 4220

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

LOAN FOR GAS FIRM--Singapore, May 11 (AFP)--A Philippine company manufacturing medical and industrial gases has procured foreign currency facilities amounting to about \$9.5 million for its expansion program. An agreement for a credit of \$4.98 million and another \$4.5 million loan was signed in Hongkong today by Consolidated Industrial Gases (CIGI), a Filipino-Australian joint venture and the Singapore-based Private Investment Corporation of Asia (PICA). According to a PICA announcement here, the suppliers credit facility of \$4.98 million is guaranteed by PICA and partially counter-guaranteed by Bank of America, Bank of New South Wales, Barclays Bank International Ltd. and Banco Urquijo. The \$4.5 million eight-year loan is provided by Bank of America, Australia-Japan International Finance Ltd., Bank of New South Wales and Chemical Bank. In addition, CIGI has also secured a P50 million term loan facility provided by the Philippine-American Life Insurance Co. The announcement said the funds will be used for CIGI's current expansion program, costing approximately P150 million, to meet the growing local demand for industrial liquid nitrogen. [Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 12 May 81 p 10]

RICE HUSKS FOR ENERGY--Rice husk or the lowly "ipa" lying in waste in various parts of the country may yet prove to be another major source of nonconventional energy. Fifty per cent of 1.5 million metric tons of the 2.5 million metric tons of rice husk produced in the country annually (based on 1980 figures) is convertible to energy equivalent to that generated by 2.4 million barrels of oil, government sources said. At current prices of oil, this could mean a savings of \$83 million a year in oil bills. The National Food Authority (NFA) said the potential of rice husk as an alternative energy source has been confirmed through its successful utilization in NFA's Southern Philippines grains complex in Tacurong, Sultan Kudarat. The NFA said that during the past few years, rice husk has been the fuel of the grains complex's power plant which is capable of producing 1,200 kilowatts of electricity. Aside from supplying electricity for the complex's milling and related operations, the SPGC power plant also sold electricity amounting to P70,000 a month to nearby towns before the installation of the Maria Cristina power lines, NFA officials said. The NFA said that other power plants in the country could also utilize rice husk as fuel-source in the wake of skyrocketing oil prices. (AML) [Text] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 11 May 81 p 36]

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6-10-81